

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Thanksgiving, 1986:

It Means Turkeys, Marchers And A Man Named Brent Earle



'The area around the Lincoln statue became an altar of flickering candles . . .

(Photos: S. McLennan)

by Allen White

In the midst of a devastating health crisis, San Francisco's gay community took time for reflection as well as giving thanks.

There were traditional Thanksgiving Day dinners across the city, none more special than the dinner for people who have AIDS or ARC sponsored by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Several hundred people gathered at the Holy Redeemer Church for dinner. There were dozens of Thanksgiving turkeys served with all the trimmings. One Castro area resident reportedly baked almost three dozen pumpkin pies for the dinner. Those attending were provided with an afternoon of entertainment produced by Danny Williams. Members of the Gay Softball League were among those who helped serve.

In the Tenderloin many gay men and lesbians took time to help serve Thanksgiving dinner at Glide Church and at St. Anthony's Dining Room.

The Annual Empress Tessie Thanksgiving Dinner was reported to be a big success. The traditional event was held this year at St. Paulus Lutheran Church on Gough Street.

At the SF Eagle, several dozen people gathered for a combination beer bust, Thanksgiving Day dinner and fundraiser. The event

(Continued on page 17)



'As they stood or knelt in the brisk cold night air, they gave new meaning to the words 'family' and 'Thanksgiving.'

Pac. Bell to Pay \$3M. for Bias

Settlement Could Total \$5M; Largest Award for Gay Job Rights

by Charles Linebarger

A \$3 million settlement has been reached with Pacific Bell Telephone ending *Gay Law Students Association v. Pacific Bell*, the largest and longest-running gay employment discrimination lawsuit in history. The record-breaking settlement is the culmination of an 11-year battle which also produced a landmark California Supreme Court decision (May 1979) protecting gays and lesbians in California from discrimination on the job.

"We beat the phone company," said Jean O'Leary, executive director of National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA). "We brought the phone company to its knees. The \$3 million settlement will go directly to the gay community. First, it will go to the claimants and whatever is left over will go to the Golden Gate Business Association Foundation, that was our choice. All gay organizations

in California will be able to apply to the foundation for grants from this money. The point is that every penny of this will go to the gay community," said O'Leary.

The settlement agreement will be filed with San Francisco Superior Court this morning, Dec. 4. NGRA legal director Leonard Graff told the Bay Area Reporter that NGRA will request a hear-

(Continued on page 2)

Today

Can We Talk?: Give the gift that keeps on giving this Christmas, come out to mom and dad. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has some pointers on how to do it. Gerard Koskovich has the story, page 18.

A.B. 1: The job rights bill has been launched once again, but this time there's a twist. See page 14

Tradition: It can be an inspiration — or a kick in the behind. Peter Brown tells of his experience, page 16.

MeatMen: A sock-it-to-ya collection of sex and satire comics from Gay Sunshine Press is reviewed by John Karr, page 29.

Trial Lawyers Blast Insurers

Agnos Praises Science Academy AIDS Guidelines

by George Mendenhall

"In pressing for this Machiavellian and discriminatory legislation," the president of the California Trial Lawyers Association said this week, "the insurance industry has once again shown its contempt for the American public." Browne Greene, who heads the 5,400-member group, condemned the state insurance industry for its announced attempt to seek legislation which would require citizens who apply for life or health insurance to first submit to mandatory AIDS testing.

Greene cited a study by the American Heart Association which forecasts that almost one million people will die this year from heart disease. He asked, "Would insurers like to refuse coverage to these people, too? Or how about potential cancer victims? Where will it end?"

"The original purpose of insurance was to accept and spread

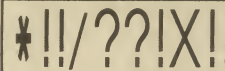
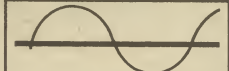
risk so that all benefited and none suffered catastrophically, financially or otherwise. That is the social function of insurance, but I think it's the moral function, too. Insurers seem to have forgotten this in their rush to the bank."

The CTLA official said his group would be in what Assem-

(Continued on page 2)

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Sermon: Rev. Jim Mitulski
7:00 pm - Advent Vespers.
Sermon: Mr. Bill Lowell

December 14: 10:30 am - Choral Eucharist.
Sermon: Rev. Steve Pieters
7:00 pm - Advent Vespers.
Sermon: Rev. Jim Mitulski

December 21: 10:30 am - Choral Eucharist.
Sermon: Rev. Jim Mitulski
7:00 pm - CHORAL CONCERT
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Sermon: Rev. Jim Mitulski

December 25: 10:30 am - Christmas Day Worship Service.
Sermon: Mr. Bill Lowell

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Insurers

(Continued from page 1)

bllyman Art Agnos has called "one colossal fight" when the insurance industry introduces its legislation in Sacramento early next year. He said trial lawyers will battle Lewis Keller, the insurers' Sacramento lobbyist, who has said that those who test positive on the tests would be refused policies and deemed "uninsurable" — although he admitted that there were doubts about the test's reliability.

Greene felt "Agnos was correct in his assessment that the insurance companies are simply trying to enhance and protect their record 1986 profits by perpetuating a hoax on the public. The legal community in this state has been saying the same thing for quite a while.

"If it's a fight they want on this," Greene added, "then so be it. Hopefully, the public is slowly beginning to understand that insurers like nothing better than to reap enormous profits regardless of the human costs involved."

The National Science Academy issued AIDS antibody test-

ing guidelines this week that will also assist in the lobbying against the insurance companies. The group urged that, "In no case should a test be made without the subject's prior knowledge (or that of a duly appointed proxy when the test subject's competence is questioned). We do not recommend compulsory reporting of seropositive test results."

Agnos praised the group who released the guidelines which was co-chaired by Nobel prize winner Dr. David Baltimore and Dr. Sheldon Wolff. The assemblyman said the guidelines were released after "the most comprehensive examination of the AIDS crisis in America."

The academy also called for counseling to be available after tests are given, urges that people with AIDS be considered handicapped on a federal level, and opposes discrimination in employment for people with AIDS.

AGNOS CLARIFIES

The controversy will center over current law (AB-403) which was introduced by Agnos. It requires written consent before a person can be tested, written authorization for disclosure of

test results, penalties for unauthorized disclosure, prohibitions against using test results for employment, and prohibitions against using test results for qualifying people for insurance.

Agnos recently asked the California Legislative Counsel, which officially interprets state law, for two clarifications on interpreting the legislation. He asked if criminal conduct would create an exception to the written consent requirement. He was told it would not. It added that the only exception would be that a person who requests testing at an alternate testing site may give oral approval.

Agnos asked whether AIDS antibody test results could be disclosed, with or without consent, by anyone other than a provider of health care services. The counsel replied that "Written authorization" as used in this section, applies only to the disclosure of the test results by a person responsible for the care and treatment of the person subject to the test. Written authorization is required for each separate disclosure of the test results, and shall include to whom the disclosure would be made." ●

Pac Bell

(Continued from page 1)

ing on the settlement agreement for Mar. 5, 1987. At that time a judge of the San Francisco Superior Court will be asked to rule whether the agreement is a fair and reasonable settlement of the plaintiffs' claims.

Should the court approve the settlement, as O'Leary and Graff expect will happen, then potential claimants across the state will be notified of the settlement through ads placed in newspapers around California by Pacific Bell.

"At that point," explained Graff, "the clock is ticking for claimants to file their claims. They'll be given 120 days from the last date of publication. From the date the Superior Court approves the settlement, I expect it could take as long as a year to fifteen months before there is a distribution (of awards) to claimants."

According to the terms of the settlement, it will be presumed that a claimant was discriminated against if the events about which the plaintiff is complaining occurred before Sept. 1, 1980. That is the date Pacific Bell's own anti-discrimination rule came into effect barring discrimination on the basis of sexual preference.

Said Graff, "We feel that the awards will range anywhere from as low as \$2,000 to maybe as large as \$50,000." The cost of attorneys fees will also be paid by Pacific Bell but not out of the \$3 million that has been set aside for paying victims of discrimination.

As of Dec. 2, there were 250 claimants involved in the case, though the number is expected to grow as Pacific Bell's notices of the settlement begin appearing across the state.

In addition to the monetary settlement, the cost of placing public notices, and attorneys fees for individual claimants, O'Leary estimated that the company will have to pay nearly \$750,000 in legal costs accrued by attorneys who have represented the plaintiffs in the class action case.

Explained O'Leary, "I see about half a million dollars in attorney fees and \$200,000 in out of pocket court expenses (court reporters, filing fees and the attendant expenses of litigation). Most of this will be going to reim-



Leonard Graff
(Photo: S. Martin)

burse Heller, Ehrman, White and McAuliffe (a private San Francisco law firm) for their out of pocket expenses and attorney time in helping us prosecute the case."

"We have class members all over the state," said Graff, "we've had to fly all over California, and this lawsuit has been going on for eleven years.

"It's really going to cost Pacific Bell \$5 million in all, possibly more," added Graff.

The original suit was filed in June, 1975. The case began when two gay men complained that Pacific Bell had discriminated against them because they were gay. One man was turned down for a job when the interviewer learned that he was gay. The other individual was harassed and forced to leave his job when co-workers learned that he was gay.

NGRA later learned that Pacific Bell had a specific policy, approved by company management, forbidding the employment of "manifest homosexuals." The company rejected these gay applicants, labeling their job applications "Code 48 - Homosexual."



Jean O'Leary

The case went to the California Supreme Court in May 1977, leading to a landmark decision on May 31, 1979. "The court said," explained O'Leary, "that gays and lesbians are protected in this state (against employment discrimination) because the California Labor Code says you can't discriminate on the basis of political orientation. The judges interpreted coming out as the most political act a person can make.

"This is the biggest award that the gay community has won in a case like this by far," said O'Leary. "How many people can challenge the phone company and win?" ●

Ho! Ho! Ho! Drop A Nickel In, Save Someone From Sin

Fresh From Battling Gay Rights Around the World,
Salvation Army Hits the Stores For Christmas

by Charles Linebarger

The soldiers of the Salvation Army (SA) will be out ringing their bells again this Christmas and no doubt will be expecting gay men and lesbians to drop donations into their little red cauldrons. But the Army's record on gay rights has not been particularly good: the SA has sent funds to New Zealand to try to prevent passage of that nation's newly enacted gay rights law and went to court to fight New York Mayor Ed Koch's executive order banning discrimination against gays in city contracts.

Many businesses and organizations are supporting Salvation Army Christmas efforts this year, however. Beginning in October, the Safeway store at Market and Church Streets, in one of the city's gayest neighborhoods, began printing on its cash register receipts the statement, "Support the Salvation Army."

Safeway store manager, Nick Haloski, admitted, "We've never done that before." He said the decision to put the statement on store receipts had been made by the district office.

Jeff Britton, of Safeway's district office, where the wording on store cash register receipts was decided upon, said, "Some of it (the wording) is up to the store, but 'Support the Salvation Army' was division-wide. Of course, the individual stores had to put it into their computers."

Regardless of who made the decision, the statement is still on the store's receipts as of early December. In addition, the B.A.R. learned from Safeway public relations officer, Deborah Lambert, that Safeway has donated money to the SA's food program this year. "But we are not a foundation and we don't give large donations," said Lambert.

When told about the SA's anti-gay policies, Lambert responded, "We don't get involved in politics."

KRON-TV is also involved with the SA this Christmas. Stacy McNutt, of the station's public affairs office, explained that this was the fourth year KRON would be participating with the SA in food drives at Bay Area shopping malls. "Usually someone like Mark Thompson, or another on-air person, is there to persuade people to donate food to the

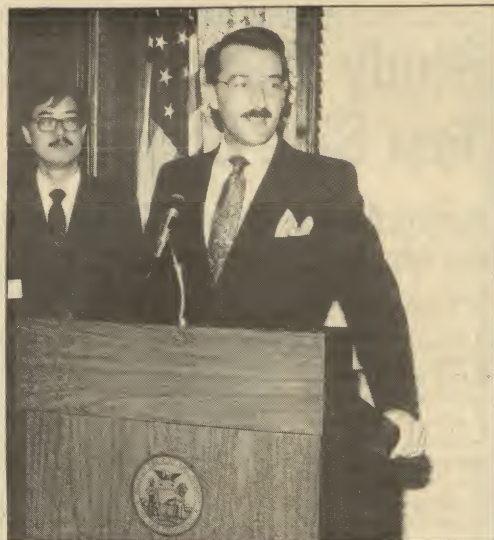
Salvation Army," said McNutt.

Javier Valencia, public affairs director for KRON-TV, responded to the SA's anti-gay policies by saying, "Our only contact with the Salvation Army is purely local and it addresses only the homeless hungry people of San Francisco."

Two seemingly different views of its anti-gay policies were provided by the SA's public relations director, Judy Vaughn, and by Northern California Division Commander, Col. Harvey.

According to Vaughn, "You must remember this is a fundamentalist church and none of our problems come from the service end. We have many employees who are gay or lesbian."

However, according to Harvey, "Naturally if the national Salvation Army has a stand or policy that is our policy as well. We believe that we ought to have the right to employ people who are consistent with the Salvation Army's stand, philosophy, beliefs



Steven Rascher.

(Photo: M. Hicks)

and position in our programs. I think that was what was at stake in New York."

Representative of the reaction of many gays is that of Steven Rascher, director of the Golden Gate Business Association and a member of the San Francisco

Small Business Commission. Said Rascher, "I think that with our present health crisis our efforts should be on behalf of our own people in need, especially considering the past history of the Salvation Army toward the gay and lesbian community." •

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Study Warns Of Test Side-Effects

Results Produce Behavior Change; But Also Strain Relationships

by Gregory Douthwaite

The AIDS antibody test can be hazardous to your mental health. According to a new San Francisco study, gay men who tested positive to HIV said they suffered from increased stress, depression, and relationship breakups.

Researchers say people should be warned of the side effects of testing. "People should be made aware of the possibility of adverse psychological consequences," said Dr. Steve Morin, an assistant professor of clinical medicine at UCSF.

"Stress and depression, if prolonged and excessive, may have a negative impact on people's health," he said.

Losing committed relationships could also be damaging, Morin said. "People in difficult situations are in need of a good deal of social support," he said. "If they don't want to be around other people, it cuts them off from support systems which buffer illness."

Further study is needed to determine whether the side effects are lasting, or whether people adjust to the results after a year, Morin said. "I expect some of the initial reaction dissipates," he said.

The test did have the desired effect of reducing high-risk sex, according to the study. Positives had less unprotected anal sex, used condoms more often, and were celibate more often after testing, it was found.

The study began in November, 1984, before the AIDS-virus antibody test became available. Researchers interviewed 560 gay and bisexual men, and 69 percent said they would like to be tested.

The reason given by 73 percent of those desiring testing was to reduce uncertainty and anxiety. Men were curious, and they wanted to avoid spreading the disease to others.

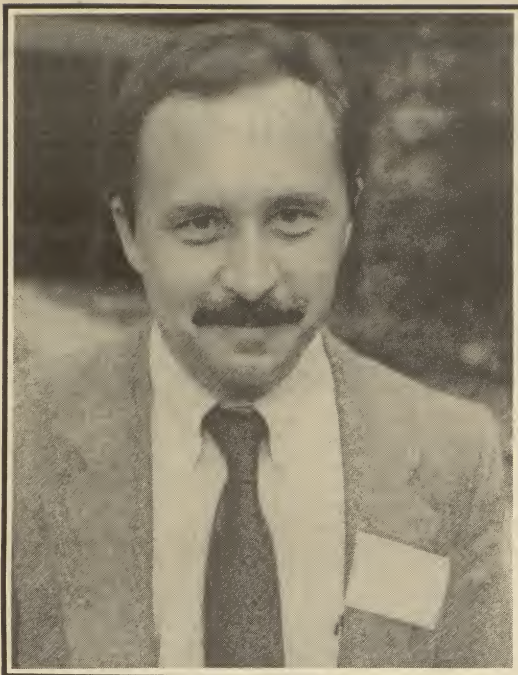
But when the test became available, opposition to it mounted. Some claimed that the risk of discrimination and psychological distress outweighed the benefits of the test. They said that high-risk persons were already motivated to reduce the risk of infection.

In November 1985, the men were surveyed again. The test had been available for months; it was free and results were confidential. But only 23 percent of those who were interested had been tested. Furthermore, only 8 percent still desired testing.

Those who had taken the test and were positive (38 men) reported reducing their high-risk sexual activity more than those who tested negative or those who were not tested. But they also reported suffering the greatest amount of stress and depression and the greatest number of relationship failures.

Before testing, 53 percent of men who would later test positive had a special relationship. After testing positive, only 40 percent still had that relationship. By contrast, men who avoided the test still had that special guy: the number in relationships remained stable at 58 percent.

Celibacy rates more than tripled among sero positives, jumping from 8 percent to 26 percent.



'People in difficult situations are in need of a good deal of social support. If they don't want to be around other people, it cuts them off from support systems which buffer illness.'

—Dr. Steve Morin

(Photo: Rink)

Among negatives, the celibacy rate declined slightly, from 23 percent to 21 percent. Among men avoiding the test, the celibacy rate climbed slightly, from 10 to 14 percent.

Everybody had less anal sex without condoms. The number of positives having receptive anal sex without protection dropped from 26 percent to 13 percent. Among negatives, the rate dropped from 9 to 4 percent. Among men avoiding the test, the rate dropped from 16 percent to 10 percent.

percent.

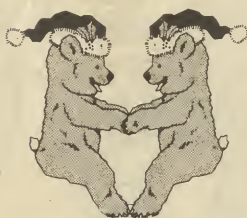
Condom use also increased among all groups. Among positives, condom use for receptive anal sex increased from 10 to 13 percent. Among negatives, the rate jumped from 1 to 7 percent. Among untested men, condom use rose from 6 to 8 percent.

Researchers noted that 20 percent of those testing positive believed they were not exposed to the virus before testing. After testing, 100 percent believed they

had been exposed to the virus.

A few positives continued having unsafe sex, saying they believed they had successfully fought off the virus. Similarly, some untested men continued to have high-risk sex, saying either that they had not been exposed or that they had fought off the virus.

Once exposed to the virus, there is the possibility that a person will always be a carrier, Morin said. "I don't think anyone is immune," he said. ●



New Friends

A Statement of Purpose

We are a loosely organized group of men and women who have experienced the shock and confusion of having been diagnosed with AIDS or ARC. Our primary purpose is to share our strength, hope, and practical knowledge on a one-to-one basis with any individual who has been recently diagnosed. Our group consciousness tells us that the first six weeks are crucial to the newly diagnosed person. Their personal and emotional experiences during that time could determine his/her attitudes regarding their future pursuits and personal well-being, while remaining a capable individual within the community. We feel we are in a unique position to have a significant and positive impact during that crucial time.

Our individual commitment to our New Friend is for a duration of two to six weeks from time of contact. The time commitment and personal logistics will be determined by the two people involved and as needed.

New Friends will not take the place of any other organization or project dealing with individuals diagnosed with AIDS or ARC. And although some of our activities as New Friends may overlap an existing service, our primary goal is to lessen some of the fears and anxieties that affect many individuals right after diagnosis.

We may act as a referral resource for the emotional, physical, and financial services that are available in the community. We will not make choices for our friends. However, we will assist him/her in sorting through the wealth of real and esoteric information available.

Our volunteer commitment will officially end after the six-week period when our friends have hopefully made their own choices about existing support groups, social services, other agencies and foundations. That is not to say that a relationship can't continue by agreement between two friends, but that in the first six weeks, the New Friend coming from service and integrity has fulfilled their primary purpose of sharing experience, strength, and hope.

New Friends shall never have more than the prudent amount of \$500 in its treasury. At the end of each month any monies accrued in excess of the prudent amount shall be turned over immediately to an agency or project directly serving the PWA/ARC community.

New Friends has no opinion on any outside issues nor will we be drawn into any controversy or politics which diverts us from our primary purpose. Our primary purpose is to assist the newly diagnosed to take their first steps towards personal dignity and independence.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Home for the Holidays

Here they are again — The Holidays. Hardly seems like a year has gone by since Thanksgiving-Christmas last. One season of good cheer and good wishes and publicly unbridled sentimentality. For one month, the cute references to mythical families will saturate our lives. We all know the hype for what it is. What gets lost is the fact that something real is also taking place.

I spent Thanksgiving with my family. I don't mean mom and dad, sisters, brothers and cousins. I mean my adopted family, some of whom I did not know until we all sat down to dinner Thursday. Between now and Christmas, I will do the same with more family. After all, I come from a large family and it takes a while to see them all.

I don't dispute the need for or the value of families even though I do get tired of the use of family ideals for other purposes. The current political fashion employs frequent references to The Family. But those who bleat so loudly about The Family seem to have funny notions about what a family really is. Their idea of family is used to exclude many and increase the power of some. Real families are inclusive and there are many kinds.

One of the new forms of family uses surrogate parents to have children for couples who very much want a family but cannot make their own babies. You'd think that the so-called "pro-family" types would be wildly applauding this new development. Nuclear families can continue to nucleate through the scientific wonder of artificial insemination.

But, alas, the "pro-family" campaigners vehemently oppose this "life-style." For some reason, it would — we've heard this before — "undermine the family."

These days, it seems, everything undermines The Family. Women's liberation, homosexuals, children who ask questions, television and even taxes have all undermined the family. If The Family is so weak, should we prop it up?

Did anybody ever live in the primrose path family that is commonly

referred to by the Right-wing myth makers? Families are just as likely to be battlefields, frequently with violence. You stand a better chance of being murdered by a family member than by a stranger in the street.

Raising a family has its problems these days, that's for sure. As is usual, the Right-wing's response to the problems of families is as dreamy and off-base as is its perception of what makes a family. To promote The Family, a Reagan commission (The Working Group on the Family) proposes to teach "reliable standards" of right and wrong in schools and cut welfare benefits to single mothers. The group railed against permissive social conditions that have eroded family structures.

Well, what's the real agenda here? The real point of this so-called pro-family report is 1) yet another Reagan-inspired assault on what's left of the American social service system; and 2) an attempt to shore up the sagging system of straight male privilege.

The fact is, most Americans do not live in the imagined family of Right-wing ideology. Fewer and fewer people live in or come from the over-praised nuclear family. Single parent families are increasingly common whether due to divorce or to the choice of some women and some men to have children without a spouse assistant.

Most annoying is the Right's effort to make the family its own political property as if no one but Right-wingers came from families — all others are "anti-family."

Gays and lesbians have been at the forefront of redefining family. Adopting children or each other, single parenting, co-parenting, making families of choice, caring for those abandoned by families — we have contributed more to renovating and revitalizing family life than have all the Right-wing ranters put together.

As The Holidays approach and our society gets jacked up on some ritual myth concerning The Family, we who are in real families should not be fooled by the hollow whining of the demagogues. Yes, families are wonderful things. Some you're born into, some you make later on.

The warmth and creativity of our real families protects us from those who would make "family" a war cry and a means of oppressing creation.

Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

Offering Prophetic Christian Witness

A Message to the Gay and Lesbian Community and to Our Catholic Brothers and Sisters Regarding The Recent Vatican Letter on Homosexuality From Dignity/San Francisco

The recent pronouncement from the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) entitled A Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons has caused much grief and anger among members of the gay and lesbian community, both here and worldwide.

Numerous Dignity members, along with other gay and lesbian Catholics and those who minister to them, have already publicly responded to this document. Our national president, Jim Bussen of Chicago, has called the letter "un-Christian, unconscionable, and an abomination."

Dignity/San Francisco has held two lengthy consultation sessions on the document and small group discussions on the letter and its impact on Dignity have taken place in members' homes. In addition, many of our members attended a recent forum sponsored by Most Holy Redeemer parish. Through this process we have reached consensus on an appropriate and honest response.

We of Dignity/San Francisco are outraged by the CDF document, not least of all because a large part of the letter is a mean-spirited attack on the work of Dignity and other progressive organizations in the church. These groups face condemnation by the CDF because their members seek to promote a just and responsible sexual ethic which acknowledges God's love for all persons. Such is not the ethic promoted by the *magisterium*, or teaching authority, as interpreted by the letter signed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the CDF.

We regard the statements of Cardinal Ratzinger, not the compassionate ministry to gay and lesbian people which he tries to halt with this letter, as the real source of scandal to the church and to the gospel. The letter is a cruel, patronizing, and futile attempt by the CDF to squelch the voice of the Holy Spirit in our community. It contains bad scriptural exegesis, bad theology, bad psychology and bad sociology.

The document goes far beyond the already sex-negative tradition of our church by providing a rationalization for physical and political violence against our people. As baptized Christians, we are horrified by

this misuse of charisma and power by those entrusted with preaching the gospel.

The document puts the responsibility for carrying out its directives into the hands of local bishops and pastors, to whom the letter is written. We are thankful that here in the San Francisco Archdiocese, charity has prevailed thus far. The Ratzinger letter has had a cool reception from many pastors; it is obvious that these clergy share some of our anger and disbelief at the CDF's statements. The pastor of our present home has stated that we will continue to be welcome at Saint Boniface Church and that he will not ask us to leave. Public statements from the archdiocese have not disclosed any plan to take action against our ministry.

Thus, despite the Ratzinger letter, Dignity is alive and well and continues to minister to the needs of the gay and lesbian Catholic community in San Francisco and over 100 cities nationwide. In fact, Dignity/San Francisco is now the largest chapter in the national organization.

Many of our brothers and sisters in the lesbian and gay community may well ask, "Why does Dignity bother?" Our members have been encouraged to join other communions. We have received hearty welcomes and messages of support from our sister churches, for which we are grateful. Others may wonder why we belong to any church at all.

There are as many answers to these questions as there are Christians. Suffice it to say that we, as Dignity and Catholic Christians, find the true source of our faith not in Vatican pronouncements, but in the fellowship we share around the Lord's table. The reality of Christ's presence in our local community convinces us that no Roman bureaucracy can monopolize the church's life and tradition. Such would defeat the purpose of the gospel, and render the word "Catholic" meaningless. God has called us to preach Christ's justice to the world especially when the Church, claiming to speak for Christ, commits injustice.

Words are not enough to respond to this letter: prayerful and prophetic action is required. First, we will continue to do what we have been doing for fourteen years in San Francisco: minister to the spiritual, social and educational needs of the lesbian and gay Catholic community and to our non-Catholic friends as well. Second, we will meet with Archbishop John R. Quinn and ask him to convey to the CDF and the pope, prior to the upcoming papal visit, our community's outrage at the document. Third, we will make a vigorous and creative public statement during the pope's stay in San Francisco, offering him prophetic Christian witness of the gay and lesbian community's faith, hope and love.

We invite you to join our struggle for justice, whether as a member of our congregation, or simply with your prayers, good thoughts and support. We intend to stay and make our church the best it can be, with God's help. We're here for good.

The Board of Directors
Dignity/San Francisco

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REVIEWERS

That Reviewer Was Opinionated!

★ Recent record reviews in B.A.R. by David-Alex Nahmod covering Megatone's Sylvester and Modern Rocketry product were beyond newsworthy in date. Syl's album *Call Me* was released in 1983. Modern Rocketry's self-titled LP is from the summer of 1985.

This reviewer was more than opinionated, he seemed to be judge and jury as well. His interpretation of Modern Rocketry's *Homosexuality* was totally misunderstood. The songwriters cited their inspiration for writing the song by saying, "We went to a party at the Galleria where Sylvester was performing. The music was hot, all these men were dancing, and it seemed as though everybody was feeling good about having a good time — it was beautiful! We tried to put that feeling into *Homosexuality*." Is Nahmod crazy? He thinks the song advocates unsafe sex practices!

Allen White recently reported Sylvester's big deal with Warner Bros. Records. He forgot (or didn't know) that Megatone's Marty Bleckman arranged the entire deal with WB's Craig Kostich. Five of the seven album deal is in conjunction with Megatone. Sylvester was almost signed by his own management to A&M whose black music department apparently reeks of homophobia.

General opinion from your readers would probably agree that all the facts are necessary for a truly good story. It's time to stop admonishing Megatone Records, however unintentionally, and give credit where it is due.

Jeffrey Wilson
Hot Wax Music Report
San Francisco

David-Alex Nahmod replies:

It was an oversight on my part not to check the release dates of those two albums. I simply reviewed them as soon as I received them at the B.A.R. office. Sylvester's Call Me got a good write-up because Sylvester has a beautiful voice and puts feeling into his music. Modern Rocketry is cold, computerized trash, and was trashed accordingly. I should point out that my job here requires me to be opinionated. That's my job description. Few writers give good reviews as often as I do.

As for your questioning my sanity. No, I am not crazy. Are you?

No Bull

★ In response to your editorial of Nov. 26, I would like to express my disappointment and my dismay at your editorial skills. I would also like to comment on your lack of information and understanding of the entire "Vatican Letter" situation.

In your newspaper edition of Nov. 6, you have a front page article informing the community that the Pope has told us to "Drop Dead" (the quotes are yours, not mine!). The Pope said no such thing! You also state in the headlines that a "Papal Bull" ended all debate. The Pope has issued no "Bull." What was issued was a letter concerning ministry to homosexual people, not from the Pope, but from Cardinal Ratzinger, head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Could we AT LEAST get our facts straight?

In that same article you quote Tom Kaun and Tom McLoughlin, co-chairs of the local Dignity Chapter extensively as they made statements about the shock and concern of Dignity about the Cardinal's letter. You also quoted me, Tom Carroll, Regional Director of Dignity/USA, speaking about the lack of anything "new" in the Cardinal's letter. I was also quoted as

telling my chapters to stay in the churches until a local bishop forces them out, and then to not "go quietly."

In your editorial, you state that Dignity is timid because it is not protesting too much to the local bishop. If you had actually read the letter, you would note that it is a letter to the bishops, not from them. Why should we protest to Mayor Feinstein because of something stupid Mr. Reagan does?

As members of the Roman Catholic Church, we respect the authority and position of our bishops, even when we don't always agree with them. When our Archbishop does something stupid or foolish, we respond. A few years ago Archbishop Quinn issued a plan for ministry to homosexuals. It was a farce, both in content as well as in its manner of formulation. Dignity publicly rejected the plan, explaining why and offering suggestions for a better approach. Your newspaper reported that incident with gusto. Dignity also was very vocal and public in its denunciation of the lack of social justice and basic courtesy shown to Dignity by Most Holy Redeemer Parish that same year. Your newspaper milked that for all it was worth as well! Are you interested in reporting news, and opinions, or just sensationalizing events?

Our community has become overly fond of attacking one another. Can you imagine the strength and power gay and lesbian people could show if we used our energies working together and supporting each other rather than criticizing at every opportunity? The B.A.R. could become a major force in the unifying of the gaylesbian community instead of being just another bar rag to read quickly and wrap the garbage in! Responsible journalism and positive approaches could do more good than all of the "naysaying" and negative commentary you put out.

By the way, Mr. O'Loughlin, do you often take editorial space to criticize religious groups? As advertisers in your newspaper, this would seem offensive, to say the least! Let us hope in the future that you will get your facts straight, report accurately, and think before you castigate!

Thomas J. Carroll
National Director
Dignity/Region IX
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Too bad you don't direct some of this energy toward your real opponent. Regardless of what obscure medieval category you want to put the Vatican letter, it was papal bull, no doubt about it. All quotes in the article were accurate and taken directly from your written or spoken comments or from the document itself, copies of which B.A.R. had while Dignity was claiming none were available. Your letter is a good example of how Dignity is more "loyal" than it is "opposition."

Ray O'Loughlin

The Patron Saint Of Whips?

★ So there is a controversy over whether Father Serra should be elevated to sainthood because he whipped the Mission Indians.

In the light of the Holy Inquisition's recent pastoral letter about Roman Catholic Gays it seems to me that Father Serra is a perfect candidate for Roman Catholic sainthood.

The only question is: did he whip enough Indians to qualify?

Ken Clark
San Francisco

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OPINIONS

JP II: Why?

★ Does a person deliberately choose beforehand to turn himself into a homosexual, or does a person discover — after the fact — that he is a homosexual because he has experienced a consistent history of involuntary, reflexive sexual arousal towards persons of the same gender?

If the former view is true, then the person has chosen a homosexual "lifestyle." If homosexuality is morally wrong, then this choice is an immoral one. If homosexuality is not morally wrong, then the choice is not morally wrong.

If the latter view is correct, there is no choice; without choice, the condemnation and punishment of a homosexual for his condition is illogical and itself immoral.

In spite of the fact that common sense and all evidence and authority on the subject points strongly to the latter view, the Catholic Pope has recently decided to adopt the "lifestyle" theory of homosexual genesis as the official church position. He then declares that homosexuality is an "objective disorder" and immoral (without any evidence or rational argument supporting that declaration) and urges intolerance, discrimination, violence and the murder of homosexuals merely because they express their desire to be treated with equality and dignity.

If homosexuals do not choose their condition, then the Pope's actions amount to bullying and scapegoating on an innocent and relatively powerless minority. The resulting suffering and death to countless individual homosexuals will be enormous.

The obvious question, then, is why the Catholic Pope has decided to ignore all of the evidence and choose to make such a powerful broadside attack on the homosexual. Why indeed?

Stuart A. McDonald
San Francisco

Viva Jose

★ Loved Jose's satire of the religious mentality. Long may she reign!

Frederic Millen
Editor, NEWS
The Parsonage
San Francisco

Swapping Prejudices

★ In his rather rambling letter to the B.A.R. (Nov. 26), Martin Stow quotes the Catholic Church as calling homosexuals "intrinsically disordered," and then goes on to say that, quote "the Orthodox Jewish psychoanalysts couldn't have put it better."

Now it is hardly a secret that some Orthodox Jewish religious leaders condemn homosexuality no less than the Vatican does, (witness the Orthodox rabbis in New York opposing the passage of gay rights legislation), but Orthodox Jewish psychoanalysts? What are Orthodox Jewish psychoanalysts?

One must wonder what position Mr. Stow, himself a psychoanalyst I believe, ascribes to: non-Orthodox Jewish psychoanalysts, or, for that matter, to Orthodox non-Jewish psychoanalysts.

I was just getting ready to laugh, but then I realized that it hardly helps solving our problems to substitute one sort of prejudice for another.

Walter Ems
San Francisco

Apologia Pro Roma

★ Your letter and editorial writers reveal a lot about their own sexual insecurities and ignorance of the Church. You should note that what the Roman Catholic Church pronounces on, even if it is not officially ex cathedra, must be seen as the Church speaking as final judge, a role it has in other contexts unequivocally explained it has no authority to assume (but it does it anyway). We should not forget that even the Pope himself would admit if pushed to it that God is the final judge.

Therefore, homosexuals should respond to the Church's pronouncements on sexuality just as the rest of the human family does. What is the official Church view on contraception? How many in or out of the official Church follow it? What is its view on divorce? How many Catholics follow it? They follow conscience and leave God to judge.

Never forget the Church has for centuries sponsored monastic life. In that life many homosexuals have found happiness — not all of them through the strict practice of celibacy. The real church is wise and compassionate. We suspect that Friar X is fucking Friar Z. But they are discreet. We have no doubt in any case that they love one another. As long as that is the case, we will not act against them. We suspend judgment (in tempore).

True, the Church did not foresee 20th century sexuality San Francisco-style, I do not think, but then

who is to judge?

David Soullanger
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: I am a "Fallen" Catholic who once had a gay priest tell me some of the things you've said in your letter. However, your letter will not serve much comfort to some poor gay soul who becomes the violent victim of someone who takes the Vatican literally. Isn't it about time for bluntness and honesty toward Rome? The Church's lack of humanity toward lesbians and gay men is an affront to all of us. Your "Apologia Pro Roma" has only an aroma . . . and not a very nice one, either.

Will Snyder

God Loves Me

★ After reading your editorial (B.A.R., Nov. 26), my first impression was, how could he write such a cruel, negative editorial? But after reading it two or three more times I think I can understand how you and possibly other people could reach the conclusions you did.

Before I continue I would like it understood that this letter contains solely my opinions; it does not necessarily reflect that of Dignity San Francisco's Board of Directors, or its membership.

First of all, Dignity is not a gay Catholic organization, nor is it a Roman Catholic progressive community. Dignity is an organization of gay and lesbian Catholics, their family and friends working for justice. To rephrase this in any way takes away the meaning of Dignity, as you did in your column.

Second, you stated that it was Dignity's decision not to protest vigorously and that Dignity has had a "timid response to the Vatican's outrage." In quoting a very famous man, "Those who live by the sword shall die by the sword." (Matthew 26:52). Why should Dignity play by their rules? Also, just how much "vigorous protest" is enough? Dignity's president has been on national television in protest. Locally, Dignity San Francisco has been circulating letters in protest. But just whose authority should Dignity yield to? The Vatican's? Maybe, maybe not. God's? I certainly hope so.

I know God created me into who and what I am. I don't need to beg the authorities to leave me some room. I also know God loves me and accepts me as is. I also believe God loves and accepts homosexuals as is. Open your Bible to 1 Samuel, Chapter 18, verses 1-4 and tell me what it says to you.

I don't know what it was that made you write this editorial, but I must say it hurt a great deal to read it.

We live in a world where it is looked down upon for a gay or lesbian couple to walk down the street hand in hand. There are laws in certain parts of the country where it is illegal to have gay sex. Recently in California, some people tried to pass a proposition that would have quarantined people with AIDS. We live in a place where gays and lesbians can't even defend their own country openly.

The gay community has enough problems with the "normal world" already. It doesn't need any more enemies from within "doing the devil's work." You have criticized Dignity's position and effectiveness as a gay representative, how about some advice and support? What would you have Dignity do?

Dignity is still alive and well. And Dignity's door will always be open to anyone who wishes to find a gay and lesbian accepting, caring, and loving community in which to nurture and rediscover their own spirituality.

As for locally, Dignity San Francisco isn't doing bad. Within the last month the San Francisco chapter has received 20 new members.

John Caldera
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: As for what I would have Dignity do: take yourselves seriously enough to get angry.

Ray O'Loughlin

Thanks To All

★ The Empress Tenderloin Tessie Memorial Holiday Dinner Committee wishes to thank the following, whose generous support made the Gay Community Thanksgiving possible: St. Paulus Church for donating the use of the parish hall; The Tavern Guild for a generous cash donation; the Stallion for hosting our auction; the Gay Rescue Mission, which donated a lot of the food and recruited volunteers; the bar owners who donated the turkeys; Mr. Marcus and the Bay Area Reporter who helped with the publicity for the auction and the dinner; all of the volunteers who worked so hard rounding up the food, cooking the turkeys and serving the dinner, and the 400 guests who honored us with their presence.

Rev. Donald Jackson
San Francisco

Consider This Alternative

★ On Dec. 10, the first payment of San Francisco property tax is due. Thanks to City Attorney Louise Renne, a long-time community arts supporter, those receiving property tax bills will have an opportunity to make a contribution to arts organizations like the Gay Men's Chorus, The Lesbian and Gay Chorus, Theatre Rhinoceros, and The San Francisco Band Foundation.

The Voluntary Arts Contribution Fund, administered by the Hotel Tax Fund, provides equipment and building improvement money to community arts organizations in San Francisco.

Making a donation along with one's property tax is convenient and will create a fund which will allow the arts organizations in our community to grow and prosper while they bring their dynamic message of pride to San Francisco.

I hope property owners in our community will read and consider the Voluntary Arts Contribution Fund solicitation card when they receive their tax bill.

Don Johnson
San Francisco

Tiano Has To Change

★ This letter was sent to Ann MacMillan, KQED Auction, 500 Eighth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-4492:

Dear Ms. MacMillan:

I am in receipt of your solicitation for items to be auctioned at the annual KQED event. Either you have a questionable sense of humor or you have no knowledge of my company's current position on KQED. In either case, let me make you aware of the following:

R. Kassman Piano represents only the finest quality keyboard instruments and is the official piano purveyor to the San Francisco Opera and the San Francisco Ballet. As such, we deal in a strictly ethical and professional manner. We are a company concerned with factual representation of both our instruments and our company's standards of service. We consider ourselves to be active in the fine arts community and we are a socially conscious company, concerned about political and social issues within the community in which we do business. Unfortunately, due to KQED's lack of representation of the community it serves, we have found it necessary to question its motives and broadcasting ethics.

I have personally been active in trying to have these concerns addressed by KQED. After having received personal assurances from Mr. Tiano that issues I was concerned about would, at the very least, be open to discussion and then having those discussions rudely and abruptly terminated, I found no choice other to completely sever my support of KQED. I intend to work vigorously towards convincing my fellow businessmen, particularly in arts-related fields, to follow my example.

Should Mr. Tiano have a change of heart, and decide to alter his current biased programming to more adequately represent the community which he is supposedly serving, we will gladly reconsider our position on financial support of KQED.

Cordially,

Russell I. Kassman
San Francisco

Banished Bulging Buns

★ I have followed the letters written about alleged rigging of Endup contests and too would like to comment.

Four years ago my lover took me to the Endup and I won the Jockstrap Contest that night. Four months ago, single, I lost the Calendar Contest. As a professional strip-tease artist I was very upset that I didn't at least place in the runner-up categories. Eric Hellman wrote of his discontent that week in the Sentinel entitled, "Where Bare Bottoms End Up As Art," subtitled "Rooting for #10. (That's me)."

I was sure my bulging handful of tickets had to tally at least 150. But when showed the ticket tally, I scored only 52 votes from the also disappointed following of mine and strangers too.

The winners tickets counted 350 plus — much more than any of the other 18 contestants. Our immediate reaction was that our tickets had been put in the count of Contestant #1, who seemed to be the producer's fave.

Granted, I may have loused up my chances when three weeks before John asked me to be a guest stripper for a jockstrap contest by refusing to take payment in check form. In my seven years of dancing I had always been paid in cash form for my act. (The crowd loved my style.)

John over-reacted, in my opinion — as he had not made himself clear on the Endup's payment policy, and equally as much my fault for taking previous experience for granted and assumed cash payment. I felt sure they had tried to pull a smooth one on me

as immediately upon request my check was cashed, an endorsement I was not pleased to make for my tax reports. He then paid everyone else in cash after they signed their employee checks. John then assured me, "We will not be able to work together again."

I feel because of that situation on professional grounds I was banned from winning as soon as he gave me the entry form to fill out.

I did not expect to win as I too thought Contestant #1 was a baby doll. But I felt positive that my "full, hairless, unblemished buttocks," in the words of Eric, would place over the other two runners-up. Someone who is known for my talent should have as good a chance at getting his ass on that calendar as an unknown. Maybe the naivness of an unknown is a turn-on and just maybe contests produced by John Kass are predecided. My feeling is that they are and audience participation is a scam to get an audience.

Rest assured, John, that I will never again grace your rigged contest productions as contestant or professional.

Tom Winter
Mr. Gay Maine, 1985
San Francisco

The Media Goofed

★ I believe that media coverage of the police tends to focus unfairly on the negative. A recent experience leads me to comment.

On Sept. 9 a friend of mine was killed by an unknown assailant. Within two days SFPD's Homicide Department had arrested a suspect. Even if they had not, my appreciation of the inspectors' work on this case would be the same.

Some words that describe my experience with the police are *thorough, committed, and considerate*. Inspectors Gerrans and Mullane, and the rest of their team, devoted a tremendous amount of time and effort to this case. They worked around the clock, followed all leads, and treated the case with dignity, unlike the media, which seemed interested only in whatever sensational angles they could develop. Meanwhile, the fine job these men did went almost unnoticed. I believe it should be acknowledged publicly and completely.

Media portrayals had led me to conclude that the police were rude and inept. My personal experience engenders only respect and gratitude. It also makes me impatient with the generally one-sided coverage the police receive. Whether I ever read of the good side of police behavior, I now know it exists. I am only sorry that it took a personal experience such as this to show me the better side.

I think members of the media need to examine their own behavior as it relates to the fairness with which they cover the police. A broader, more complete coverage would give a truer picture. Current coverage, I think, misleads the public, "educating" them to only one side of police behavior.

Joseph Falardi
San Francisco

A Message About Massages

★ I think it's time someone said (wrote) something about the ads the models-escorts-masseurs place in the B.A.R. Unquestionably, most of them are liars, ok let's say they are not truthful.

When a prospective client calls them, in my case each call is long distance, and asks them for their stats (e.g., color of hair, eyes, build, age, how well hung, etc.), why would they lie about their stats?

If you call from outside the 415 area and get their recording, they will not return your call. Why don't they realize the B.A.R. is distributed anywhere from San Jose to Santa Rosa and Guerneville?

It takes me over an hour to get to these residences, only to discover most of them are ugly! (They advertise "very handsome." Maybe some are.) I now know why they don't show their faces in the ads! They have bad breath, bad teeth, bulging stomachs, body odor and are on drugs. (I said "most.")

You ask them on the phone if they are versatile, to which they say "yes." They can sound so pleasant and courteous on the phone. Yet when you are at their place and suggest doing your thing, they say, "I'm not into that."

I know they get stood up sometimes — but they do it also!

I've also noticed most of the ads do not appear in the B.A.R. for more than approx. five to seven months, if that. Perhaps San Francisco isn't the "promised land" after all. Maybe if they were honest and lived by the Golden Rule, they would better satisfy their clientele and do better financially.

One more thing — all of the masseurs I've engaged are not certified, or qualified. How can they advertise that they are masseurs? My pet canary could give a better massage. It is a rather sorry situation.

Chuck De Brava
Santa Rosa

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S.F. GOP Self-Destructs

The Republican party — what is left of it — has apparently decided to throw in the towel in the city. The GOP, with a party registration of less than 19 percent in a city dominated by liberals and Democrats closed up shop last week at their office on Geary Street. They sold the furniture and put their meager records in cold storage, probably forever.

With only 72,000 voters out of 700,000 population, and not a single Republican holding office, there was little else for the beleaguered GOP to do. The party has been operating(?) here for the past few years with a county committee that was constantly fighting among themselves with lawsuit after lawsuit being filed against each other.

County chairperson, attorney Harriet Ross, was unpopular even among those who shared her political philosophy. Ross probably did more to discourage Republicans, particularly gay ones that I have spoken with, than any "leader" in recent years. Now she says she is discouraged by the endless lawsuits that her fellow Republicans keep filing against each other, and the futility of it all has led her to get out. "I can't do it anymore," says Ross, "besides I'm tired of worrying whether I too might be sued."

Veteran state Senator Milton Marks, the last elected local GOP lawmaker, jumped ship last year and joined the Democrats. There are no Republicans on the 11-member Board of Supervisors, and Eugene Garfinkle, the last Republican to hold office, lost his BART board seat in the recent election to Democrat Arlo Hale Smith.

Despite the seemingly pointless task of winning in this city, the local party stalwarts, backed financially by the United San Francisco Republican Finance Committee, have kept their small office open in hopes of possibly mending themselves and presenting some kind of "loyal opposition" to the Democrats. But in the end, the bitter in-fighting won out, and the Republican party in San Francisco is now a thing of the past. None of the players in this self-destructive party fight wanted to speak with us this week.

The only semblance of Republican party organization left in San Francisco is the mostly-gay Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights. Whether those still interested in promoting the party of Lincoln, Eisenhower and Reagan will help keep this organization going remains to be seen.

Secretary of State George Schultz last week approved a plan to screen Foreign Service applicants, employees and their dependents for the AIDS virus in what is the first civilian AIDS testing policy among federal workers. Civil libertarians are rightfully worried that the policy could serve as a precedent for private industry.

Meanwhile, discrimination due to AIDS becomes more and more apparent. In Indianapolis, a judge recently terminated the right of a divorced father to visit his 2-year-old daughter because tests showed that Thomas Stewart, a 31-year-old construction worker, has been exposed to HIV. The drastic action taken by the judge is a step that courts usually take only after repeated child



B.A.R. columnist Wayne Friday and State Sen. Quentin Kopp at Wayne's birthday party at the Comstock. Wayne turned 50 years young last week. (Photo: Savage Photography)

abuse or neglect. Full custody was granted to the child's mother despite her admission that she was a user of the drug PCP.

City Attorney Louise Renne is the guest of honor at the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance's Christmas Party at the Comstock Club on Dec. 8; \$35 donation, hors d'oeuvres, no-host bar. Call Don Disler at 392-2800 for reservations or info.

In Atlanta, a man known as "Mr. T" confessed to a series of gay murders that terrorized that city's gay community. Michael Terry, 26, was charged with six murders after admitting to the killings between December, 1985 and October, 1986.

Former Menlo Park Assemblyman Bob Naylor, who gave up his Assembly seat to wage an unsuccessful campaign for the U.S. Senate, is the early favorite to become the new state GOP chairman when the 1,237 members of the California Republican Central Committee meet in February.

City Hall staffers say that

Mayor Dianne Feinstein is really sore at Speaker Willie Brown over his planned bill that would allow out-of-state ownership of California banks. The still unwritten bill could assist a takeover of BofA by Citicorp of New York and those close to Her Honor say the plan has Feinstein fuming.

Political writers still shaking their heads at the cost of California political races. More than \$40 million was spent on the recent gubernatorial and U.S. Senate races. A state "record" was set in Billings, Montana this year when GOP State Senator-elect Al Bishop unseated incumbent Democrat Thomas Towe. The Republican spent \$22,015, while the loser spent \$22,706.

State Sen. Quentin Kopp took a double-decker bus load of friends and political supporters to Sacramento Monday to watch him take the oath of office.

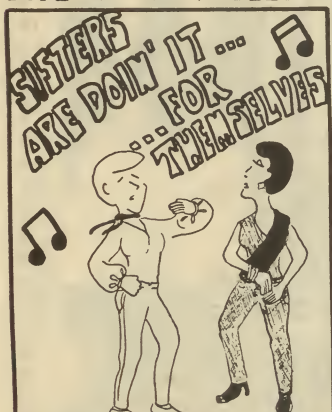
Kopp, incidentally, will make his first appearance before a gay

group next Monday, Dec. 8, when he speaks to the Toklas Democratic Club where he is expected to outline his Sacramento AIDS agenda (8 p.m. at the Women's Building on 18th Street).

Quote of the week from Dr. Mervyn Silverman, president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, in a Los Angeles Times interview: "There has been a persistent failure of moral leadership on the AIDS crisis from the president on down. Pres. Reagan didn't even mention the epidemic for four years and then only to alarm people about the blood supply and to endorse the alarm of parents over AIDS children going to school, in both cases ignoring the medical evidence."

A note of thanks to all those who made my recent birthday party at the Comstock Club such a pleasant one. Over \$6,000 will be split evenly between the S.F. AIDS Emergency Fund and Coming Home Hospice. Thanks again to everyone.

LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ARE REALLY DOING A NUMBER ON US.

One out of every three gays and lesbians—that's over seven million of us—

struggle with the disease of chemical dependency every day. But there is hope: Pride Institute—America's first in-patient drug and alcohol treatment facility, run by gay men and lesbians for gay men and lesbians. If drugs or

alcohol are doing a number on you or someone you know, call our toll-free number now, 1-800-54-PRIDE (or in MN, AL or HI, 1-612-934-6554). All inquiries are held in strictest confidence.

Recover with pride.

PRIDE INSTITUTE

Member National Association of Lesbian and Gay Alcoholism Professionals

Brian Jones

'Well! My Dear . . .' The Life and Crimes Of Gene Zuchelli

Gene Zuchelli was 15 and there was a war on. This had its advantages. Said Gene later: "I was crazy about uniforms. There were servicemen all over the place and I was just not able to stand it." Certainly, Gene's hometown, Knight's Landing on the Sacramento River, was too far from the front.

Thus the spring of 1945 found Gene, in full drag, lying in the arms of a sailor at night on the beach at San Diego. Gene got busted, of course.

When they took the "young lady" down to the station house, Gene was handed over to the matron and taken to the women's strip search room.

"You're not going to believe this," Gene said. "I'm a guy." The matron believed it. She hauled Gene back to the booking sergeant and said, "This one's yours."

The cops shipped Gene back to his mother and dropped the charge. But Gene could not go back to Knight's Landing. He switched buses along the way, boarding one marked SAN FRANCISCO. He never looked back.

Gene Zuchelli's friends were looking back this week as they buried Gene's body in a sunny hillside plot at San Rafael. Gene Zuchelli, 57, died Nov. 24 of AIDS-related pneumonia.

Gene Zuchelli was a remarkable sissie who lived a remarkable gay life. From that day in 1945 he was out of the closet and lived as an openly gay man. His life was profoundly important to gay liberation although Gene was never an activist, as such.

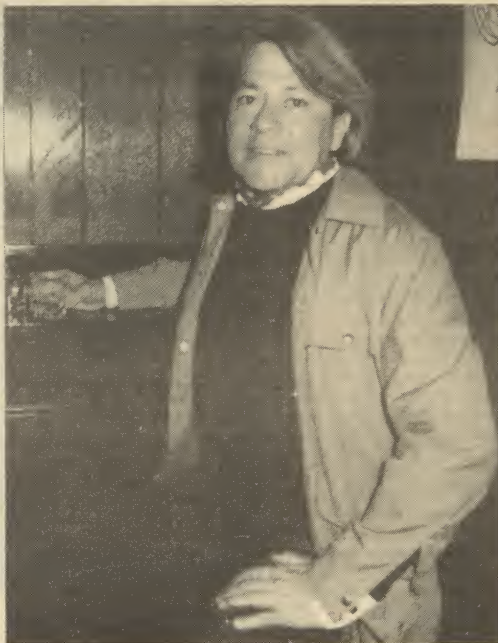
He was put in jail for being gay, he was fired from jobs for being gay, and yet in 40 years as an up-front fairy, Gene was never consumed by bitterness or resentment.

Gene Zuchelli did not fight homophobia; he transcended it. Recalling the words of Oscar Wilde—"I put my talent into my work, but I put my genius into my life"—Gene lived a gay life. Gene Zuchelli's presence was proof enough that a gay life was not only possible, but probable.

With his flowing silver-grey mane (in later years) and his carefully constructed rainbow outfits, Gene made a statement about gay lib just by standing still and waiting for the bus.

Jerry Smith of Minneapolis knew Gene for 40 years. Jerry had a special bond with Gene—"We met when he unwittingly tried to steal my lover"—and Jerry had occasion to bail Gene out of jail.

That was in 1947. Gene was still dressing in drag, running over to Oakland and "yoo-hooing" at the sailors. The Oakland authorities were not amused even though many of the sailors were.



Gene Zuchelli

Barbara Cameron, former co-chair of the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee, was among Gene's close circle of friends. She wrote Gene's personal history in the 1983 parade program because "his history spans a significant period of San Francisco history beginning from the late Forties."

Said Gene in the interview, "It was so exciting in San Francisco. All I had to do was stand on the streets and smile." Gene sought the company of older, wealthy men. One—Richard Schiff—became his lover for a few years un-

til Richard died.

Evenings would find Richard and Gene, with Gene now dressed as the dapper gay blade in a double-breasted suit, sipping champagne at the Fairmont.

When the Korean War came along Gene went down to the draft board and told them he was homosexual. "Gay" was an unknown word at the time.

A few years later, Gene was shipping out on cruise ships as a beautician. His Korean War "confession" was dug up and

one day, as he tried to board ship, two men in trenchcoats barred his way and Gene's shipping-out days were over. That was life in the McCarthy era for an up-front fairy.

For the past nine years, Gene worked for a state consulting firm in the City. While he was never less than outrageous—punctuating all his important statements, for 20 years, with the phrase "Well! My dear . . ."—his inherent kindness and gentleness won the hearts of the straight people who worked with him. The day of Gene's funeral, Monday, was an office holiday. Gene's straight co-workers joined Gene's gay friends to take Gene to the cemetery.

The Catholic funeral mass was a Zuchelli classic: colorful and dramatic. Even as the gay community fumed at the Pope's recent condemnation of homosexuality, Gene planned a traditional Catholic funeral at St. Boniface in the Tenderloin.

This was a typical Gene response. To homophobic outbursts such as the Pope's, Gene would raise a glass of champagne, say, "Well! My dear . . .", tell an old story—then go on with his own life, on his own terms.

Gene was laid to rest wearing purple cotton over yellow, a shroud of crimson velvet covering his slate-blue casket. He was buried at Mount Tamalpais Cemetery in San Rafael.

At his side until the end was his gay family—Emilio, Peter, Tod, Ken, Barbara, Jerry and Brian. Also mourning his passing were his "niece," Carl, of Minneapolis; and his current beau, Marvellous Marv.

To paraphrase Shakespeare, from the Eulogy of Julius Caesar: "This was a Sissie." ●

HEALTH

Speed Kills

by Frank Davis,
18th Street Services

Many gays use "speed," a drug also commonly called "crystal" or "crank." Its pharmaceutical name is methamphetamine. It is a powerful drug that can be swallowed, snorted, injected or taken rectally. It is also very dangerous, and can be deadly.

Speed is a strong stimulant of the central nervous system. Some of its effects are increased heart rate, blood pressure and breathing rate. It also creates chemical imbalances in the brain which can lead to psychosis, paranoia and depression. The hazards of high doses of speed include risk of stroke or heart failure caused by an increase in blood pressure (which may be sudden if speed is injected). Continued high doses with associated appetite loss may lead to malnutrition (loss of weight, skin troubles, ulcers) and a physically worn-down condition which invites infection. This is particularly dangerous for people also at high risk for AIDS.

Injection of speed carries more dangers. Embolisms (injected air bubbles) can be fatal. Abscesses (localized bacterial infections at the injection site) can be serious enough to require hospitalization. Sharing of needles can transmit hepatitis or AIDS. Impurities in street speed can cause various diseases which may result in death.

Perhaps the greatest danger of speed is that it is very addictive. It produces an intense wave of physical and psychological exhilaration, especially when injected, a wave of pleasure generally

called a "rush." Many people become psychologically addicted to speed, and because they build up a tolerance, they need to take increasingly large amounts to get the same high.

Many people who have become addicted to speed go on "runs"—extended periods of high-dosage use of the drug every few hours. The user may stay awake for days, eating little or nothing during that time. This run may be followed by a long sleep and depression, sometimes called a "crash." Needless to say, this lifestyle is not healthy.

Many gay men closely associate speed use with sex. In fact, the two become so intertwined for some men that they cannot have sex without speed, or speed without sex. They become as psychologically addicted to the sex as to the speed. Speed runs become sex runs as well. Often the sex is unsafe and needles are shared because judgment is impaired by the drug use. This type of lifestyle is just asking for AIDS, and it is no wonder that presently about 12 percent of the gay and bisexual AIDS patients in San Francisco report a history of IV drug use.

Those who don't associate speed use with sex may become equally addicted for other reasons. Maybe they like to take some crystal and go out dancing all night, or they feel they need it in their work to stay up longer and work harder. Weekend or occasional use may quickly develop into a daily need.

(Continued on next page)


New Years Resolutions:

- ① Relationships
- ② Quit smoking again
- ③ Become active in community
- ④ Stop feeling guilty
- ⑤ Volunteer for Shanti now

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January 16, 17, 18

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TRAINING
February 13, 14, 15 & 20, 21, 22

To volunteer, call now!



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558-9644

Mike Hippler

The Belle of Polk Street

If you've ever been in the vicinity of Polk and Sutter, even if you've never seen David Kelsey you've probably heard him. You'd have to be totally deaf to have missed the waves of sound blasting from the stage, rocking the very foundations of the New Bell Saloon where he plays, and rumbling down the block in either direction. This virtuoso performer, who has been a vital part of the San Francisco entertainment scene for more years than he cares to remember, has been called many things throughout his career, but "subtle" is not one of them.

Pedestrians are drawn to the front door of the New Bell like scientists to the Shroud of Turin. They want to know what the fuss is all about. Those in the know enter fearlessly. Others glance in, shake their heads in disbelief, and beat a hasty retreat.

I am one of the former. I have come to the New Bell, next to an adult bookstore that calls itself "A Veritable Supermarket of

Smut," this Thursday evening not only to enjoy the music but also to meet friends. These friends seldom have much to say, but it hardly matters. In the New Bell, I couldn't hear them anyway.

When I make my entrance just past 9:30, David is already playing. Wearing a tropical shirt and seated between a three-tiered organ and a grand piano on an elevated stage, he is definitely the center of attention. This is not some tired lounge act, hired to provide background music.

This man is a star. If the music doesn't convince you, the attitude will. Only three people in the world consume cigarettes with such flamboyant assurance — Bette Davis, Charles Pierce, and La Kelsey.

For the first twenty minutes, until David plays "I Only Have Eyes For You," I recognize none of these songs. Consequently, I concentrate on those around me instead. When one elderly gentleman approach-



David Kelsey.

(Photo: Rink)

es the bar, bartender Mark Friese says, "Hey Grandma, nice to see ya. How're the hemorrhoids?"

Later, Mark points to a pedestrian outside the bar and says, "Whenever he walks down the

street, people ask him if he wants a burger with that shake."

David breaks from a song to reply, "Oh, Jane, you're so cruel."

David engages in lots of banter

of this sort, both with the bartender and with customers. At one point he takes time to sign an album, "To Liz!" A little later, he pauses to let someone he calls Dr. Rhythm hook up his rhythm box.

When one customer feels compelled to protest ("Play some music!"), David balks. "How much did you pay to get in here?" he snaps. The customer, who backs down immediately, really has no grounds for complaint. Despite the interruptions, David's sets are long and extraordinarily vigorous.

One of David's specialties is playing the organ and the piano behind him at the same time — a hand on every instrument in sight. He does this now on a rousing medley of songs from *Oliver!* This is followed by an audience request, "Jazz Hot," from *Victor/Victoria*. While he plays many show tunes like these, David does not confine himself to any one particular style of music. "I like anything that's pretty, happy, or sentimental," he claims. "What I don't like is oppressive music."

Although David could not have predicted tenure at the New Bell as part of his future, "I always knew I wanted to perform," he says. "As early as I can remember, I wanted to make a living this way." A native of Northern California, David has studied piano and organ since he was seven years old. He has earned money in other ways — on a farm, in a bakery, and in a mortuary, for instance — but he has never forsaken his original goal.

Moving to San Francisco in the late 1950s, David played for a number of years at the Levee, "a sort of bike club/dinner house on the waterfront." He began playing at the New Bell in 1974. In 1979 he formed a group called David Kelsey and Pure Trash, a Dixieland jazz show band. Pure Trash, which was an immediate success, delighted audiences from San Diego to Vancouver

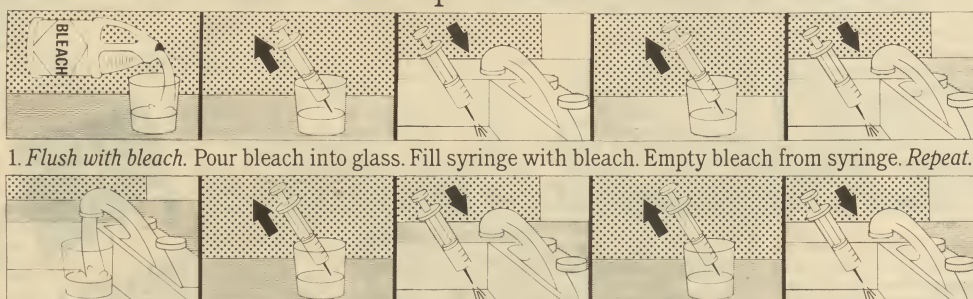
(Continued on page 22)

This bottle could save your life.



Bleach kills the AIDS virus that gets in used needles. Cleaning needles with bleach will help

protect you from getting AIDS, and it will not damage the needle. Make sure you don't shoot or drink the bleach.



1. Flush with bleach. Pour bleach into glass. Fill syringe with bleach. Empty bleach from syringe. Repeat.

2. Flush with water. Fill a glass with clean water. Fill syringe with water. Empty water from syringe. Repeat.

For more facts about AIDS and cleaning needles:



Call
863-AIDS

Speed

(Continued from previous page)

Whatever the reason, if you have problems with speed, I strongly suggest you get help for it. It isn't easy to kick a speed addiction, but it can be done. It won't get any easier the longer you wait — in fact, the addiction will only get worse and harder to solve. For more information, counseling or referral for a speed problem, gay men may call 18th Street Services, 861-4898, lesbians may call Iris Project, 864-2364, and both men and women may call Operation Recovery, 626-7000.

If you aren't ready yet to stop shooting speed, at least don't share needles. You don't need the added risk of AIDS on top of the dangers of speed itself. Remember, a person can look perfectly healthy but still be infectious with the AIDS virus and give it to you.

If you must share a needle, at least learn how to clean it between uses. Before you use a needle that has been used by someone else, fill it twice with liquid bleach (such as Clorox), squirting out the bleach after each filling. Then fill it and rinse it twice with water. This should kill the AIDS virus, and it all takes less than a minute.

But always remember that your first choice for good health is to get off the speed entirely. If you don't remember anything else from this column, please remember one thing — Speed kills.

Fundamentalists Must Stand Trial

PALM SPRINGS—Christian Fundamentalist Betty Batey faces a possible three-year prison term if she is convicted of child-stealing. The child-stealing case, which involved her former husband, Frank Batey (a gay man) and their son, Brian, has attracted national attention. The California State Supreme Court rejected a lower court ruling which attempted to drop the child-stealing charges.

The Bateys were divorced in 1975, at that time, Mrs. Batey was granted custody of the then-four-year-old Brian. Seven years later, Frank was given custody of Brian when Betty allegedly refused to grant Frank court-ordered visitation rights. No more than a week later, Betty disappeared, surfacing 19 months later in Denver. There, she was arrested for investiga-

tion of child stealing. She explained during a custody hearing that she feared Brian would be corrupted by his father's gay lifestyle.

In 1984, Mrs. Batey was found in contempt of court for violating a court order by taking the child out of the state and refusing to return him to his father. She was fined and sent briefly to jail.

When felony child-stealing charges were pressed separately by the district attorney, Superior Court Judge Earl Maas dismissed the charges, ruling that she had already been punished for the same conduct and that double jeopardy would be violated. However, the 4th District Court of Appeals reinstated the charge last July by a 2-1 vote.

—The Palm Springs Desert Sun

'No, No Nanny!' Cries Jane Wyman

LOS ANGELES—When the fall television season started, actress Jane Wyman had an obsession, but it wasn't terribly magnificent for the lesbian and gay community. Wyman, who at one time was married to Pres. Ronald Reagan, apparently used her clout to keep a lesbian plot out of her popular CBS-TV series, *Falcon Crest*.

According to OUT, a New Zealand gay newspaper, Wyman told producers she was offended by the affair which had been planned for characters Errin Jones and Meredith, a "sinister nanny." The two women apparently will have to be content to remain good platonic friends.

—OUT of New Zealand

Massachusetts Takes New Look At Gay Parents

BOSTON—There may be some light forming at the end of Massachusetts' foster care tunnel. The state, through the whims of Gov. Michael Dukakis, has refused to allow gay men and lesbians to be foster parents, may change its policy soon. That was the recommendation of a subcommittee of Human Services Secretary Phillip Johnston.

The subcommittee recommended that foster care placements be judged by social workers on a case-by-case basis. This recommendation conflicts dramatically with a policy reinstated in May, 1985 by Massachusetts' Department of Social Services. At that time, the DSS required children to be placed in "traditional" families with heterosexual partners.

The subject of gay and lesbian foster parents has been controversial in this state ever since two foster children were removed from the home of two gay men, Donald Babetts and David Jean.

—The Gay Community News of Boston

Grand Jury Probes Extortion Charges In Gay Bars

BOSTON—A Massachusetts grand jury is studying allegations of police extortion from gay bars. The investigation is the end result of more than five years of probes by the FBI and the Justice Department. During that time, licensing records of 249 restaurants and bars have been subpoenaed.

An unnamed source told the Gay Community News of Boston that 18 gay bars in Boston have been subpoenaed.

Most of the allegations have concerned charges that police hired to guard bars have been demanding payoffs in addition to receiving their standard fees set by the city. A number of sources told the GCN that most gay bars are asked to make payments to police officers in return for services such as allowing patrons to illegally park or to overlook illegal activities in the bar such as drug use, prostitution or overcrowding.

The Gay Community News of Boston

Austin Group Wants To Protect Persons With AIDS

AUSTIN, TX—Austin Human Relations Committee members are asking the City Council to consider passing a law to bar discrimination against people with AIDS.

Commissioners voted unanimously in October to push for the measure to protect AIDS victims from discrimination in employment, housing and access to businesses and public services.

Glen Maxey, co-chairman of a group that will lobby for the law, said there have been 25 to 30 cases of discrimination against AIDS victims in the Texas capital.

Craig C. McDaniel

Time Poll: AIDS Sex Info Is OK

NEW YORK—An overwhelming majority of Americans support putting AIDS information in sex education classes for 12-year-old children. According to Time Magazine, 95 percent of 1,015 American backed the input of AIDS information.

Another interesting fact found out by the national newsweekly was that while 76 percent favored information about homosexuality, over half of those in favor (56 percent) also said homosexuality should be presented as "immoral."

When polled individually, 37 percent of the mothers and 35 percent of the fathers said they had told their children between 8-12 years of age about homosexuality while 48 percent of the mothers and 42 percent of the fathers reported having discussed AIDS with the children.

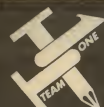
—The Philadelphia Gay News

TV Soap Picks Up On AIDS Theme

NEW YORK—A long-time television soap opera has decided that three characters will be involved in an AIDS story line. The soap opera is *As The World Turns*, a 31-year-old soap which plays on CBS-TV and locally on Channel 5.

Dr. David Stewart, a longtime resident of the fictional Oakdale, IL, announced on the Nov. 21 episode of the soap that he was leaving for Africa to join a research team studying AIDS. Meanwhile, his wife, Ellen, told friends at a party that she will organize benefits to raise money to fight the disease. Her friend, Nancy Hughes, volunteered to help Ellen.

—The Philadelphia Gay News



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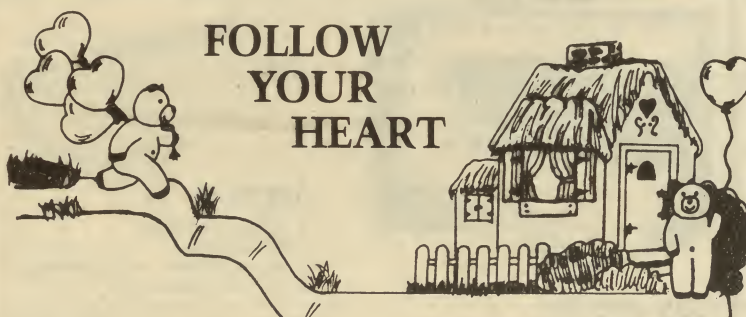
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A.B. 1 Launched Again This Time With A Twist

Labor Code Already Prohibits Anti-Gay Bias; New Bill Standardizes Job Rights

Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-SF) has again introduced AB 1, the bill to include job bias against lesbians and gay men in the state Fair Employment and Housing Act. This time, he predicted victory.

"We have turned the corner and victory is in sight," Agnos said. "We no longer face a debate over whether antigay job bias is prohibited—because we now know that it is illegal—but rather how to handle the complaints."

"The only issue for A.B. 1 in this session is whether we will handle the antigay job bias complaints through the Labor Code, where the protection now exists, or through the Fair Employment and Housing Act," he said.

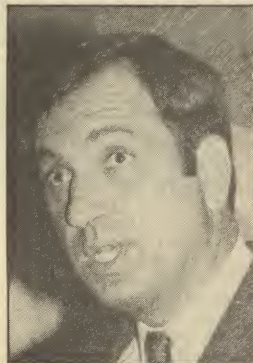
Agnos said that the fight against antigay job bias was won when the Attorney General ruled last April that an existing labor code forbids all such discrimination. According to Agnos, the Department of Industrial Relations has agreed that it will handle all complaints of antigay job bias and set forth procedures to handle complaints.

As the California Labor Code Sections 1101 and 1102 now stand, a lesbian or gay man who has a complaint of job discrimination would go to the Department of Industrial Relations, which would hear the case, decide if discrimination had taken place, and then could be awarded back pay and reinstatement by the Department.

"That's very similar to the remedies in the Fair Employment and Housing Act, which deals with job discrimination based on race, sex, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, or sex," said Agnos.

"But in addition to those remedies, the Labor Code also includes a possible prison term for employers who violate its provisions, and that goes beyond the Fair Employment and Housing Act provisions," he added.

The Labor Code also does not exempt religious organizations or small employers from its coverage, as is provided for in the Fair Employment and Housing Act. The purpose behind A.B. 1, is



Art Agnos (Photo: Rink)

now to standardize treatment of all job discrimination.

"The bigots who wanted to us A.B. 1 as a focal point for their campaigns of hatred and money-raising schemes lost the battle without ever knowing what hit them," Agnos said. "It's a done deal."

"I look forward to working with the Deukmejian Administra-

tion in bringing a single standard to this last remaining element in California public policy against antigay bias," Assemblyman Agnos concluded.

Other California laws already provide protections to lesbians and gay men in housing, public accommodations, as victims of attacks motivated by hatred, and in public employment.

• The Unruh Civil Rights Act protects against discrimination in housing and public accommodations.

• An executive order banning discrimination in public employment, including such jobs as teachers, police, firefighters and other positions, was signed by Gov. Jerry Brown. It was upheld by Gov. George Deukmejian when he reviewed it as Attorney General and issued a formal opinion concurring that such discrimination is illegal.

• A.B. 848 (Bates) of the 1983 Session includes lesbians and gay men in the special protections against violence based on hatred, in a bill that was signed by Deukmejian.

AIDS RESEARCH

New Virus Found; Snags Blood Test

by David Lamble

Swedish scientists have announced the discovery of a third AIDS virus and American and French researchers have indicated that there may be more to come. The new virus, given the name SBL (State Bacteriology Laboratory) 6669 V-2, may necessitate the development of a more sophisticated blood test to screen out AIDS. Discovery of the third virus in West African patients, receiving treatment in Sweden, is not viewed as surprising by scientists who point out that there are several types of polio virus, at least three of which can lead to paralysis.

Thus far, neither the new Swedish virus nor a second AIDS virus found by French scientists, LAV-2, has turned up in blood samples in the United States. LAV-2 has been found in blood tests in three European and six West African countries and researchers are continuing to look for it in the epidemic devastating Central Africa.

One of the difficulties facing scientists is that there are some microbes which belong to the same family of retroviruses as the AIDS viruses and yet do not themselves appear to cause the disease in humans. The HTLV-4 virus has so far apparently not caused any human AIDS cases among the 300 or so persons found with it. HTLV-4 is biologically close to the virus found in African monkeys.

American AIDS researcher, Dr. Robert C. Gallo, says he and his colleagues are puzzled by the differences in the viruses' behavior. "What makes one cause disease, another not, I don't know," said Gallo. Noting research underway to discover a

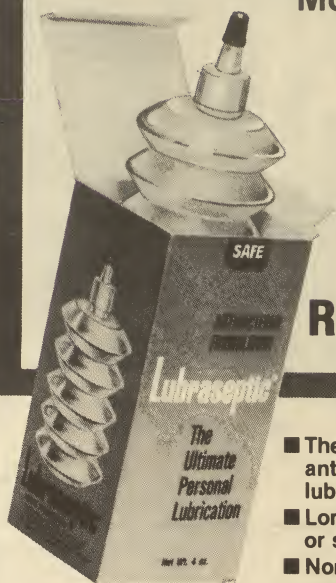
new gene that might determine how viruses affect the body, Gallo predicted, "The answer will come in 1987."

Gallo noted that he was studying the paper on the SBL 6669 V-2 virus and would review his findings in Science magazine.

French researcher, Dr. Luc Montagnier, stated in an interview in The New York Times that the heterosexual pattern of the African epidemic seems to be continuing. Montagnier explained that some African patients have been infected by at least two of the AIDS viruses adding that a virus could infect the population for quite some time before it would be discovered by scientists.

Meanwhile, the New York Native reports the possibility of a link between the African Swine Fever Virus (ASFV) and a new virus HBLV (Human B-Cell Lymphotropic Virus) recently discovered by Gallo. Native publisher Charles L. Orlieb wrote, "The epidemiology of the new virus suggests that it may be highly contagious and cause ailments

(Continued on page 19)



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"I do what a lot of us do: I make it a point to celebrate life and its holidays, not so much with those who only gave me life and my early years, but with those who've contributed to my life's greatest meaning."

— Peter Brown

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Tradition It Can Be An Inspiration — Or A Kick In The Ass

by Peter Brown

Halfway into cocktails, something wonderful happened. I'd been suffering through the high blood pressure, failing eyesight, gaining-too-much-weight woes of middle-age conversation, when Mario suddenly began talking about the "old days" in San Francisco.

I went out to dinner this Thanksgiving — okay, no big deal — but it was only the second time in more than 15 years that I've eaten the traditional bird outside my own home. The reason for that goes beyond the fact that next to Mom's, I like my own cooking best. The truth is that without having given it thought, I've made it a practice to avoid the observance of any American Tradition with people, my family included, who do not accept homosexuality (mine or anyone's) as being right up there with cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie.

Mario's eyes twinkled, his speech became animated, and he spoke with all the beguiling charm of a Spanish Charles Boyer.

"I went into my first gay bar in San Francisco and saw all these men, these real men who were not afraid to be men!" His voice was lilting, his memory clear, his accent commanding me to pay closer attention.

"They were not nelly drag queens like you had to be in my country," said Mario.

I'd heard those stories before. But somehow, when Mario (not his real name) spoke, they struck new meaning. He was talking about San Francisco, not of the 1970s as I knew it, but of the '50s! He'd emigrated from Mexico almost thirty-five years ago and made his way in the business world. He and the mate he found here became, in their own way, part of the tradition that helped establish San Francisco as a Gay Mecca, a place where homosexual men and women could be what they are, without being shackled with the guilt and the ever-present sense of wrongdoing that seem to accompany being gay.

Mario's mate died two years ago, after their being together for thirty-one years. Despite his loss

and his obvious loneliness, Mario presented himself with a sense of pride and a kind of dignity that made me feel, well — self-conscious, and thankful that we have people like him as role models.

Throughout dinner, I couldn't take my mind off Mario's stories of the early Black Cat days. Maybe I was helped along by the turkey and stuffing, but at some point during his story telling, I was so struck — overwhelmed, in fact — by such a great feeling of old-fashioned tradition, that I completely forgot that as a self-professed radical gay leftist, I was supposed to be screaming about the Republican President and the anti-homosexual visigoths in the State Department.

Like Good People do, my parents and teachers laid on me a strong daily regimen of the opinions, doctrines, practices, rites, and customs that are uniquely (but not exclusively) American. They were so unrelenting and so successful, that growing up, I was nothing less than a true believer. I was a straight-A, nerd-boy, exem-

plary jerk, right down the crease of my slacks to the shine of my shoes.

I can still hear Sister Rosetta telling my mother, "You've just got to be proud of that boy!"

And proud she was, until I broke ranks at age thirty and became a born-again iconoclast. Specifically, I broke the traditions on which I was carefully nurtured, and I deserted my wife and two boys to take up with another MAN. In short, I surrendered to a greater truth and came out.

At that point, tradition took a hard smack at my behind. So it is with everyone who comes out. And the further out one comes, the harder the smack in the behind.

Tradition is still very important to me, even though I've come to trust little and to question everything. And when it comes to observing traditional holidays like Thanksgiving, I am but one of millions of homosexual men and women who teeter somewhere between doing so with family or doing so with those who give us basic acceptance.

To suffer a holiday celebration with my family would be to endure the weird glances and unspoken, off-color remarks of peripheral relatives — nieces and nephews and cousins and in-laws — who've not progressed beyond "queer." Just thinking about it is enough to bring on a case of hives.

Anger rises in me that there is no affirming place in tradition for me as a homosexual man, that there is little real acceptance of gays, unless polite tolerance counts. It angers me that there is no place in mainstream America for us. On the whole, the neighbors don't want us, churches don't want us, schools don't want us, business doesn't want us, our country doesn't want us, and our parents, like my Mom, are still not-so-secretly wondering/hoping whether we'll ever find a nice "girl" and get married so as to put an end to their shame.

As a result, I do what a lot of us do: I make it a point to celebrate life and its holidays, not so much with those who only gave me life and my early years, but with those who've contributed to my life's greatest meaning. It would be divine if the two could be one, for then, I would be complete. My past would be more closely aligned with my destiny, and I would no longer be one of the millions of society's bastard

(Continued on next page)

Thanksgiving

(Continued from page 1)

was a welcome for cross-country runner Brent Nicholson Earle and a money-raiser for the S.F. AIDS Emergency Fund and the ARCAIDS Vigil.

On Thursday night, several hundred people gathered at Market and Castro Street for the candlelight memorial march to honor Sup. Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone. For eight years, people have remembered the two men who were assassinated in their City Hall offices on Nov. 27, 1978.

The march has now become a memorial to people who have died of AIDS as well as to Milk and Moscone. This year, the march concluded when people gathered at the monument to Abraham Lincoln in front of San Francisco's City Hall.

The area around the Lincoln statue became an altar of flickering candles. The tiny flames seemed to glisten in the eyes of the many people who stood quietly. As they stood or knelt in the brisk cold night air, they gave new meaning to the words "family" and "Thanksgiving."

Many in the march carried cards with the names of friends or lovers who have died of AIDS. Many, with tear-filled eyes placed the posters and the candles on the monument.

Earle left San Francisco Sunday afternoon to continue his journey around the United States raising money for AIDS education and research.

On Thanksgiving morning he was met by members of the San Francisco FrontRunners and the San Francisco Leather and Blues Motorcycle Club. He then began his run across the Golden Gate Bridge. As he ran, his 70-year-old mother, Marion Nicholson, made the trip riding on a motorcycle. "It certainly was exciting," she said later.

Once across the bridge, Earle ran through the Presidio, then across Golden Gate Park as he headed towards the Castro. In what he described as one of the most thrilling moments of his run, Earle entered the Castro.

Led by a motorcycle escort, his route carried him over Castro



Who says jogging is a chore? You sure couldn't guess it by looking at these runners as they crossed the Golden Gate Bridge. The event was the American Run For AIDS (ARFA). The run was on Thanksgiving Day for the Bay Area and local runners had to be inspired by the smiling example of Brent Nicholson Earle, who not only jogged across the bridge, but ran all the way out from New York just to do it. (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Street, across Market and then over to the Holy Redeemer Church. He said "the feeling was emotional and spectacular" to see the huge Castro Theatre sign come into view as his group approached the area. With him

were many FrontRunners who had been with him as he ran in the Gay Games II marathon last August.

He then went to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation dinner

for people with AIDS and ARC. There he was presented with a proclamation from the City of San Francisco from Sup. John Molinari. Earle then ran to the Eagle where he was present for the San Francisco AIDS Emer-

gency Fund and the ARCAIDS Vigil fundraiser.

In the evening he joined Candlelight marchers. He told the marchers he had been inspired by "The Times of Harvey Milk" film. When he saw it, he said, he made his decision to begin his run.

Friday was a day to be with the people he is running for, the people with AIDS. In the afternoon, he went to Ward 5-A at San Francisco General Hospital. After speaking to the nurses, he went into several of the rooms and spent time with the patients. He was visibly moved by the experience. But he didn't quit for the day. He then went to the ARC/AIDS Vigil.

On Sunday morning, he was honored by Rev. Cecil Williams at Glide Methodist Church. Earle received a sustained standing ovation when he was introduced.

When he began his run, he knew it would take him 3,927 miles to reach the steps of San Francisco City Hall. His goal is to run 10,000 miles and have it end up as part of next year's National March on Washington.

But as the Candlelight marchers braved the Thanksgiving night chill, Earle looked out at the crowd. He knew he had run a long ways to join quite a family gathering. ●

DOPE AND BOOZE

Ask Yourself:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Have I ever been told by someone close to me that I have a problem with drugs or alcohol? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Have I ever forgotten what I did the night before when I was drinking or drugging? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Have I ever tried to cut down on my drugging or drinking, but failed to live up to my promises? | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Have I ever tried changing my drink or drug of choice, thinking a particular type was my problem? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Have I ever gotten in trouble with a lover, friend, job or the law due to my drinking or drugging? | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Have I come to depend on drinking or drugging to help me socialize and meet people? |

If you answered "Yes" to even one of these questions, it is likely that you have a substance abuse problem.

Getting high on drugs and alcohol used to be the thing to do. Now, times have changed.

Laws have been written to increase jail sentences for people convicted of drunk driving. Employers have begun to randomly test workers for drug use. If you do lose your job because of substance abuse, you may find it hard to get another one. Companies have installed procedures to avoid hiring people with drug or alcohol problems.

Drug and alcohol abuse has special significance to gay men. Dope and booze suppress the immune system. There is a clear connection between how high

you are and how likely you are to engage in unsafe sex. And, there is no question, sharing needles spreads the AIDS virus.

Do not wait until you have been arrested, have a serious health problem or lose your job and friends. Get help now.

18th Street Services provides outpatient counseling and referrals to gay men with substance abuse problems. Our staff is gay. We understand your lifestyle and concerns.

There has never been a better time than now to live clean and sober. Get off dope and booze.

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Funding for this message provided as a public service by The GGHA Foundation.

Tradition

(Continued from previous page)

children, the kids that nobody wants or claims.

Thank Mario and others of his generation for forging the groundwork, for their part in building a tradition for gays in a place like San Francisco, where (forget what you've heard to the contrary) there is little more than a tiny pocket of acceptance of what they insist on calling "the homosexual lifestyle."

Thank Mario and all the others who have had the personal courage to break free and stay free.

Thank Mario, and Ron and Bob and Chuck and Wilson, and the multitudes of others who have gone before, for their amazing ability as storytellers, for reminding us that as gay men and women, we have a past of our own, a wonderful, rich, and growing tradition.

Understanding that tradition is the only way we can come to terms with the present. Building on it is our path to the future. ●

Mom, Dad: Can We Talk?

This Is The Story Of 'Rob and Ruth Johnson' And P-FLAG

by Gerard Koskovich

For some, it is already a memory; for others, as yet a future plan. The holiday season seems a particularly popular time: As in years past, thousands of kids will give mom and dad a Christmas present they never expected.

The scene is familiar: A young person—back from college for winter break—asks his or her parents to sit down. "I have something to tell you," the son or daughter begins gravely. "I'm sharing this because I love you and want you to be part of my life: I'm gay."

Members of an organization with several chapters in the Greater Bay Area know countless variations on this story. Each has listened to other parents and children; each has experienced such a revelation in his or her own family. The group is Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG).

Local P-FLAG chapters are affiliated with similar groups throughout the nation to provide support for families confronting the isolation and anxiety that discovering a loved-one's homosexuality can create. As parents of gay people or gay children, members of P-FLAG are uniquely

qualified to understand the dilemmas such families face in a largely homophobic society.

One of the first Bay Area P-FLAG chapters founded outside of San Francisco is the Palo Alto group. It has operated a hot-line and held discussions—with one



"Rob did stay in touch, and the more we talked, the better I felt. I saw that my son was happy and loved, his personality developing, his life coming together. I could see that it was right for him."

—Ruth Johnson' (Photo: Rink)

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"We all have AIDS.

It's just that some of us have the virus, and some of us don't. At first I thought AIDS had nothing to do with me, and I was angry about having to deal with it. But now that I feel part of the crisis, I feel a lot better about myself. And that makes me want to help others."

— Bob Hoffman

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**STOP
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It's about change.
And isn't it
about time?

Photo: Tony Plevik

"When my son Rob told me two years ago, I was really shocked," recalled a mother of three, the wife of a Stanford professor. (To preserve her family's privacy, we'll call her "Ruth Johnson.") She spoke at length of her experience—a story that illustrates the basic changes many families undergo when a child comes out.

"I suddenly saw Rob in a new way," Ruth recounted over tea in the kitchen of her comfortable home on the Stanford campus. "I imagined him with another man—a distressing image for me at the time.

"I'm sure it was a big event for Rob to tell me, and he was hurt that he didn't get a warm, positive response, but I simply couldn't give one. Rob did stay in touch, and the more we talked, the better I felt. I saw that my son was happy and loved, his personality developing, his life coming together. I could see that it was right for him."

While her relationship with her son improved, Ruth continued to feel profoundly isolated. "It certainly wasn't something I felt comfortable talking to other people about. I didn't know who to talk to," she explained. "I really feel that when a gay son or daughter comes out of the closet, their parents go into one."

During an extended sabbatical last year on the East Coast with her husband, Ruth discovered Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Her involvement with the group brought major changes, helping her toward acceptance and understanding of her son, herself, and her family.

"I was terribly nervous about the meeting. I went up to the door three times before I had enough nerve to go in!" Ruth remembered. "I've seen parents come to the Palo Alto group with the same feeling. And the first response is relief: 'Everyone just looks normal here. I'm not alone!'"

"When you have an assum-

tion that your kid is heterosexual, and then you find out that they're not, all these negative stereotypes that we all learn about homosexuality come up," Ruth said. "Then you have to educate yourself and replace the stereotypes with real information."

P-FLAG was a crucial element in this process for Ruth. "I have learned a lot there, read a lot, met a lot of parents and gay and lesbian young people," Ruth explained. "I feel completely different now than I did a year ago, when I couldn't even say, 'I have a gay son' without getting a lump in my throat and tears in my eyes. I don't feel that way at all now.

"But it's not all or nothing," Ruth emphasized. "I still haven't told my father, and my husband hasn't told his brothers. We're in a very uneven place, with a lot of comfort, a lot of change, and some areas of discomfort. That's one reason I prefer not to use my family's real names."

Ruth's son, Rob Johnson, 23, lives in Santa Cruz with his lover. He sees his parents' involvement in P-FLAG as an important sign of their support.

"It's an indication of how much they care about me," he said. "It makes me respect them a great deal. The main way it's affected me personally is that now they're more educated around the issues. It makes my life less of something they can never understand, and it makes me feel less cut off from them."

Mitzi and Tom Henderson, a Menlo Park couple with four children whose son, Jamie is past-president of the Stanford Gay and Lesbian Law Students Association, pointed out that P-FLAG isn't for parents only: The group also helps gay people themselves with family-related issues.

"P-FLAG can offer a surrogate family for gay people whose family has rejected them or who don't

(Continued on next page)

P-FLAG

(Continued from previous page)

know about them yet. It offers gay people a chance to try coming out and to discuss some of their concerns about family relationships. It can give them a chance to sound out what kind of reactions they might anticipate in telling their family," she explained.

Tom Henderson added that P-FLAG "may well be one of the few predominantly straight environments where a gay person is welcome by the very terms of the invitation."

Ruth Johnson summed up the group's goals and methods. "I don't think we have any agenda for people who come to us. There's no one right way to deal with this issue," she said. "And there's no expectation that you

must march in a Gay Pride Parade and be on television—although some of us do decide to do that.

"The one goal of P-FLAG is to help parents who feel uncomfortable and feel distress to feel more comfortable," Johnson said "and to help gay kids and their parents have the best family relationships possible."

The Mid-Peninsula Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets the third Thursday of the month at the University Lutheran Church, 1600 Stanford Ave. (at Bowdoin) in Palo Alto. The 24-hour Mid-Peninsula P-FLAG hotline is (415) 854-0142.

Other Bay Area chapters include: San Jose, (408) 270-8182; King City (408) 674-5108; Oakland, (415) 547-4657; Concord, (415) 685-6119; Marin, (415) 381-4196; and San Francisco, (415) 347-7958.

Suggested Reading For Gay Men, Lesbians, Parents

(Or, "What Else To Give Mom And Dad For Christmas")

Gloria Guss Back. *Are You Still My Mother? Are You Still My Family?* Warner Books, 1985. Paperback, \$7.95. A handbook for parents of lesbians and gay men. Among the topics: handling anger and guilt, telling family and friends.

Betty Fairchild and Nancy Hayward. *Now That You Know: What Every Parent Should Know About Homosexuality.* Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1981. Paperback, \$6.95. Written by two mothers of gay children.

Carolyn Welch Griffing, Marian J. Wirth, and Arthur G. Wirth. *Beyond Acceptance: Parents of Lesbians and Gays Talk About Their Children.* Prentice-Hall, 1986. Hardback, \$16.95.

David K. Switzer and Shirley Switzer. *Parents of the Homosexual.* Westminster, 1980. Paperback, \$7.95. A guide to acceptance for Christian parents of gay people.

—Gerard Koskovich



Romanovsky and Phillips on KQED Radio

B.A.R. writer David Lamble inaugurates a new series of programs on KQED Radio (88.5 FM) with a profile and musical portrait of Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips. The gay troubadours discuss and play their new Teresa Trull produced album, *Trouble in Paradise*, as well as three years of one-night stands across Lesbian/Gay America. Lamble's program will air Sunday, Dec. 7, from 6:30-7 p.m. (Photo: I. Young)

New Virus

(Continued from page 14)

such as the flu, encephalitis, multiple sclerosis, arthritis and possibly AIDS."

Ortleb contends that Gallo's new virus is behaving the same way in the American population "that African Swine Fever behaved among pigs during epidemics of the last decade."

Ortleb, whose newspaper has long argued editorially that there are significant links between the African Swine Fever Virus and

AIDS and that the United States government and the governments of other countries may be trying to cover up or obscure those links to protect the pork industry, extracted a promise from Gallo that he would change the name of his new virus from HBIV to African Swine Fever Virus should tests prove the viruses identical.

"You have an absolute promise that if this is African Swine Fever Virus, the name will be changed instantly," Gallo was reported to have told Ortleb.

Houston Tests Sex Ed

HOUSTON—Sixth-graders in three Houston schools may take a 12-week sex education course if they choose as part of a test project by the school district.

School board members approved the course, a subject that was forbidden before, after expressing concern about the increasing problem of teenage pregnancies.

—Craig C. McDaniel

U.S. Court To Rule On Handicap Rights

Health Assoc. Asks Protection For People With TB, AIDS

The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments Dec. 3 in a case involving tuberculosis but which raises issues similar to the treatment of people having AIDS. The case involves an elementary school teacher, Gene Arline, who was fired because she had tuberculosis. Her attorneys argued that her firing was illegal because tuberculosis is a handicap under federal discrimination law. Legal observers believe that the Court took the case because of concern over AIDS.

The American Civil Liberties Union and the American Public Health Association Sept. 19 asked the U.S. Supreme Court to rule that victims of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and AIDS are covered by a federal law protecting the rights of the handicapped.

In an amicus brief filed in the case of Gene H. Arline, the two organizations told the court that protection of persons handicapped by communicable diseases is consistent with public health concerns.

"The court's decision in this case will be crucial to persons with AIDS and millions of Americans who don't have the disease but have been exposed to the virus," said ACLU attorney Nan D. Hunter. "The Justice Department, in its brief and public pronouncements, is pandering to an irrational fear of contagion by arguing that it is a justifiable reason for firing a person with AIDS or a person who tests positive for the AIDS antibody. We believe the law clearly states otherwise."

The statute at issue in the Arline case is Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits employment discrimi-

nation by the federal government and federally funded agencies against handicapped persons.

"The medical evidence to date demonstrates that AIDS cannot be communicated through casual contact in the workplace," said Herbert Semmel, attorney for APHA. "To permit irrational fears to the contrary to dictate employment policy is a flagrant violation of the Rehabilitation Act's core purpose—the protection of handicapped persons against medically unjustified discrimination."

The attorneys for the two organizations stressed that their joint brief showed that civil liber-

(Continued on page 22)

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DEATHS

Gerald Duane Coash

Jerry Coash, 43, succumbed to cancer Nov. 7 at Tarzana Medical Center. A beachside memorial service was held Nov. 9 and his ashes will be scattered at sea. He is survived by his lover David Wright, former wife Dianne Forrester and their son Jonathan of Tarzana, and mother, two brothers and a sister in Illinois.

At the time of his death, Coash was clinical director at Shanti Foundation in West Hollywood, supervising and training staff, screening clients and referring them to counselors. He was also director emeritus of Aid For AIDS, having participated in the founding of that organization.

In San Francisco during 1972-74 he worked for the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare as a Vista administrator of self-help enterprises, with 30 volunteers for the agency under his supervision.

Voted Therapist of the Year in 1981 by the National Association of Social Workers for the State of California, Coash was a licensed clinical social worker with M.S.W., Psychology and Theatre Arts degrees earned at Cal. State - Fresno and MacMurray College, Jacksonville, IL. In addition to maintaining a private practice in Encino and Westwood, he had also been on the staff of Encino Hospital, Parkwood Community Hospital in Canoga Park, and involved with the Vista Program in Oregon, Florida, New Jersey, New Mexico and Texas.

Coash was the architect of hospice care units at several health facilities that concentrated on the widowed and bereaved. At the onset of the AIDS crisis, his attention focused on similar therapeutic hospices designed for AIDS patients and their significant others, which led to his involvement in Aid For AIDS and Shanti.

Chuck Solomon

Chuck Solomon, a leading figure in Bay Area Theater, died at home Tuesday, Dec. 2, at 2:30 p.m. A memorial gathering will be held at his family home, 640 Waller Street, Thursday, Dec. 4, between 2-8 p.m.

Robert White

On Nov. 25, Bob White passed away peacefully, 21 months after a diagnosis of AIDS. Bob's personal struggle included a concern for others as he fought valiantly for access to experimental research treatment. He spent five months at the Pasteur Institute in Paris where he worked to increase the awareness of the need for AIDS research in the USA.

Bob is remembered by all who knew him for his intense passion for life, his generous spirit, his exceptional sense of humor, his beautiful eyes and winning smile. His insight and sensitivity brought him to work for the Pacific Center in Berkeley, to serve on the Board of Directors at Operation Concern, and to dedicate himself to the planning and development of the innovative Office of Patient Services now operating at Pacific Presbyterian Professional Building.

Bob will be deeply missed by his lover, Nick De Mara, his mother, Helen White of Pasadena, his brother, John White of Sacramento, and many friends. A gathering of those who knew him well will be held at Bob's home on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. Donations can be made in his name to the Shanti Project.

Steven Del Re

Steven Del Re died peacefully on Oct. 30 of pneumocystis pneumonia. He would have been 30 on Jan. 14, 1987.

Steve was raised in Phoenix. He came to UC-Berkeley on an athletic scholarship. His Junior year was spent abroad studying Italian(s). After graduation he was an enthusiastic manager at Esprit De Corp. He took pride in the Gold Medal for springboard diving he won at Gay Games I.

After his AIDS was diagnosed in April, 1984, he moved to Paris for two years, courageously participating in several experimental treatments.

Steve had a sparkling energy and zest for experience. He enjoyed eating, shopping, traveling, listening to music, and making love, not necessarily in that order. He was outspoken, and his spontaneity and charm made him fun to be with. His example was a profound influence on many people. He was determined to live to the fullest, and when facing death did so with bravery and dignity.

He was a bright light who streaked through our lives, and now, beyond them.

His untimely loss is deeply felt by his lover, David Kessler, his mother, Rosemary, his family, and his many friends.

Donations in his memory may be made to Shanti or the SF AIDS Foundation.

Robert Kissel

"All of life is just a narrow bridge, just a narrow bridge, just a narrow bridge. And above all, and above all, is not to fear, not to fear at all." This chant from an 18th century Hasidic Rabbi sustained Bobby, his friends and the staff at Kaiser Hospital as he prepared for his peaceful death after his AIDS diagnosis in July.

He taught us what it means to have and be a friend with all the unconditional love needed to face life as well as death.

Robert "Bobby" Kissel died on Nov. 24 at the age of 47. In addition to his parents and his sisters, he leaves his own personal Board of Directors: Chuck, Rich, Bill, Sandy, Liz, Marge, Richard, Randy and Jo. The joy we all had in celebrating all of Bobby's life, including his death, strengthens us all to face life without fear. Thanks for that, dear friend.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, Nov. 26, at St. John's the Evangelist. Contributions to the AIDS Foundation in Bob's name are suggested.

James "Baird" Underhill

Baird Underhill died peacefully Dec. 1 in San Francisco of AIDS. He was 47 years old.

He was a painter all his professional life, essentially self-taught, with a special interest in Chinese painting, calligraphy and language.

He is survived by his friend, companion, and housemate, Steve Newberger, his parents, Eva and Bob Maynard, sisters Cheri, Corrinne, Cathy, brothers Deigh and Chuck.

There will be a gathering of his friends and family on Sat., Dec. 6, at 2 p.m. at Baird's home.

Nelson Deik

Nelson Deik, age 34, died on Nov. 23 at the Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C., of complications due to AIDS. Previously in October of this year, Nelson had journeyed to Washington from Santiago, Chile in hopes of receiving treatment with the new drug, AZT. With him at his bedside at the time of his death were his mother, Lucy, his sisters, Jackie and Virginia, and his close friends, Louie Stewart and John Carter.

Nelson was a resident of San Francisco from 1970-78. In 1975, he received his undergraduate degree from the University of San Francisco and a graduate degree in international relations in 1977 from Golden Gate University. Subsequent to his graduation, he was employed by the Hibernia Bank in San Francisco. In late 1978, Nelson returned to Santiago, Chile where he assumed the presidency of his family's textile company. He was diagnosed with AIDS in early 1985.

Nelson enjoyed opera and the theater. He was an avid skier and swimmer. He returned frequently to the United States to visit his friends. He will be remembered by his friends for his warmth, love, and wonderful sense of humor.

In addition to his mother and two sisters, he is survived by another sister, Anna Bella. A memorial mass was held for Nelson at the Chapel of the Washington Hospital Center on Nov. 25. He was cremated and his ashes returned to his native country.

Jason T. Irvine

Jason Irvine, 32, died Nov. 13 of AIDS at the St. Francis House hospice in Long Beach, where a memorial mass was said Nov. 19 prior to the scattering of his ashes over San Francisco Bay. He is survived by his mother and sister in Texas, who suggest contributions to Project Ahead at The Center in Long Beach, 2017 E. Fourth St., Long Beach, CA 90814 designated for St. Francis House in his memory.

Born in Houston, TX, Irvine had lived in Los Angeles for a year before moving to Long Beach in March after he was diagnosed. While living in San Francisco for five years, he had been employed as a bellhop at the Marriott Hotel.

Stephen P. Johnson

Stephen P. Johnson, PhD, died peacefully on Nov. 14 after a 19-month struggle with AIDS in the devoted loving care of his lover, Dan, surrounded by dear friends, and supported by his father, Art, his brothers, Keith and Dale, and other members of his family. His courage, inner strength, and quiet determination will be remembered by all who knew him.

Steve taught in the Peace Corps in Africa and practiced psychotherapy on the East Coast for ten years before moving to the Bay Area in 1974. He was employed as a psychologist for six years at Operation Concern, and also maintained a private practice out of his home in Bernal Heights. Steve had been a student and teacher of T'ai Chi for nine years; the manner of his passing will always be a reminder for those of us who knew and loved him to let go of the mind and die into the heart.

Albert Peter Bagnall

Albert Peter Bagnall, a resident of San Francisco for six years, died Nov. 10 at the Nassau Medical Center in East Meadow, New York. Services were held in Centereach, NY. Albert, who was born Jan. 19, 1951, had many friends in San Francisco and is survived by his parents, Georgia and Eugene Bagnall, and his brother Eugene and his family. Peter will be missed by his friends, especially Helen, a long-time friend. He will always be remembered with love.

(Continued on page 23)

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Nez Pas

Camp Glamour And Illusion

Nez Pas Interviews Manuel and Tootsi
Second of Two Parts

Nez: How did you two team up?

Manuel: What happened was, I lost my best friend around 15 years ago, and have been looking for another such friend. During that looking, at different functions, this "little person" kept asking me if the make-up was o.k., if the outfit was all right, things like that. After several months of that, I finally asked the person if he was a drag queen or an entertainer! He huffed, "An entertainer!" Of course, I have made Tootsi the star she is today! And, as it turned out, he is now my best friend.

Nez: When did you two first perform together?

Tootsi: It was New Year's Eve at the Lake Lounge about three years ago. I was doing a thing called "Tootsi Does Dallas" and asked Manuel if he'd help. He did, and we started. We did the show as a thank-you to the audience, rather than a fundraising event.

Nez: Why do gay functions always start late?

Tootsi: We start on time, if it's we two doing the function! The others? Half the queens don't have their act together. What's wrong with telling the audience that there is a slight delay, and give the real reason for the delay? It is totally disrespectful to the "paying" audience to not inform them as to why's of the delay. If they know, they will remember and be grateful that they were informed.

Manuel: Most gay people—not just drag queens—don't have their shit together. There are too many bosses and not enough workers. Those who are in charge don't bother to get reliable committees together, naming who is in charge of what portion of the show.

Unfortunately, people are used to the lateness, and don't plan on arriving until late. Maybe if shows start on time—with only three or four in the audience—



Tootsi and Manuel perform "Bosom Buddies" at the Paradise Patio.

people will get the idea of being on time. For me, I have to be prepared; the sound system, the lighting, the musical numbers and their order, who the entertainers are—and I try to limit their drinking during the show.

Too many are fickle: they lost a fingernail; they want to do a dif-

ferent song at the last minute, things like that. Tootsi and I will pull a performer from the show if drunk or too fickle to work with. One time a person wanted to become a part of the show—after it had already started. "Stop the tapes and let me do my number to the juke box." Since the show

had already been written, I had to say no, and noses were bent.

Nez: Why do you do pantomime entertaining?

Tootsi: I can't deny it; it's ego. I love it. It's too bad that some have too much ego, and must arrive late for a grand entrance. Manuel and I start way early with make-up and costumes. We have to be ready. We've been doing it for so long, it's second nature with us.

Manuel: Because of successes like Rocky Horror Picture Show at the Paradise. It took a lot of planning and it was a success. It was the longest running, no-dance-break show ever! One reason for its success was the fact that at all times the audience was involved, too. That's important—including your audience in the show.

Nez: Any advice for beginners?

Manuel: Honey, don't tell me you're thinking of doing it! You're too old!

Have pride in yourself, in who you are; it's part of what you are. Rehearse. Don't think that you know it all. Ask for advice and help, and then put it to use. Remember that you are a man; you're only playing a part. Take pride in pantomime.

(Continued on next page)

MCC-S.J. Hails New Pastor

The new pastor of Metropolitan Community Church-San Jose, Rev. Denis E. Moore, will be officially installed as pastor on Sunday, Dec. 14, in the regular Sunday church service at 6:30 p.m. Rev. A. Austin Amerine from Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church in Spokane, Washington, will be presiding.

Rev. Amerine is a former district coordinator for the Northwest District of UFMCC. He is the founding pastor of the MCC churches in Portland, Oregon, and Spokane, Washington.

The new pastor of MCC-San Jose, Rev. Denis Moore, moved to San Jose from Portland, where he has lived since March of this year. Prior to that, he lived in Honolulu, where he was senior pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of Hawaii for five and one half years.

Rev. Moore was presented as a candidate for pastor of MCC-SJ on Sept. 21 and was unanimously elected by the congregation. His pastoral duties officially began on Oct. 16.

In addition to the Installation service on Sunday, there will be an Installation Potluck, on Saturday evening, Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m., to which the congregation of the Grace Baptist Church has also been invited.

All members and friends of MCC-San Jose are invited to join in the Installation events. •

Peer Counselor Training

A 40-hour training for AIDS Project of the East Bay peer counseling volunteers is scheduled for Jan. 30 through Feb. 1 and Feb. 6 through Feb. 8, 1987. New volunteers are desperately needed to handle the increasing number of clients. The training will be held at Merritt-Peralta Town Court in Oakland. The deadline for applications is Jan. 5, 1987.

"The peer counselor has a very important role," says Ernest Andrews, Clinical Coordinator at APEB. "Peer counselors provide a listening ear for people with AIDS and their friends and family. They try to enable people with AIDS to have a good quality of life while they are dealing with the impact of their illness."

Ethnic minorities and people who are fluent in other languages are particularly encouraged to apply to the peer counseling program. People of all backgrounds, skills, and origins are needed.

"We are seeing an increasing

number of people of color who require our services," says Ernest Andrews. "It's a very lonely situation to be diagnosed with AIDS and have to deal with it by oneself. Having AIDS raises a lot of other issues for a person and when these issues compound with cultural differences, it can sometimes be difficult without support. Our agency is committed to providing ethnic sensitive services. However, we can't do it alone.

Before joining APEB, peer counselors make a one-year com-

(Continued on next page)

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Do you know how to reduce your risk of AIDS? Fear of AIDS keeps people from finding out the real facts.

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Congresswoman Barbara Boxer receives a check for \$2,000 from Human Rights Campaign Fund board member Chuck Forester. Boxer was one of 87 candidates for federal office to receive help from the HRCF. From left to right are Doug Jackson, Forester, Juanita Owebs, Bill Kruse, Ginny Peacock, Boxer, Lawrence Wilson, Jerry Berg, Jim Hormel, Don Argus and Rochelle Kruse. (Photo: J. Fielder)

Nez

(Continued from previous page)

Tootsi: Be yourself and have fun with what you're doing—that's important. Pick the music that is you. Don't try to be someone else. Practice, practice, and practice some more. Try to get an experienced person to advise and help you. It's great to get dressed up, but don't ignore your friends when in "face." After all, you are the same person—with or without make-up. And, those people are your audience!

Nez: What about your names?

Manuel: If a person changes names from street to "face" too often that name influences the person when out of drag. I go by Manuel, so I am always Manuel. It's too easy to begin to feel and act like a woman if you go by a woman's name all the time.

Tootsi: When I first performed at the Lake Lounge, Manuel was in charge—of course! I think Cha Cha, Lady Johnny, Kavika, and Lady Billy were there. Well, I'm blind as a bat and have to wear these thick glasses. Someone mentioned that I looked like Dustin Hoffman in *Tootsie*! I said, "Then that's the name I'll take—but spell it T-O-O-T-S-I."

Nez: What's the hardest part of a show?

Manuel: To me, going out there makes me a nervous wreck. I hope the audience will like me. Getting over the fear of the audience is difficult. I still have butterflies every time. There's that awful moment of realization of getting the audience's attention.

The hardest place to work is Revol. It's easier at other places because that's where most of the drag queens come from. It's easier to perform in front of the same type of crowd from which you come. But, when you do a show in front of a different crowd you'll know whether you're good or not. It's a real challenge at Revol and we have fun there.

Tootsi: It's the nervousness before the first number, even if I have done it many times before. It's nerve wracking to realize that I'm in front of people who know me. Also, hon, do you realize how hard it is to take a pee dressed in a girdle, panty hose, and those long nails?

Nez: Final comments?

Tootsi: I'm glad people enjoy what we do, and the fun we have with it. I hope they continue to like it. A "thank you" to them. If it weren't for them, we wouldn't do it. We will continue as long as we are asked. We appreciate criticism. We are our own best critics. We appreciate other's honesty. But remember, it's not what you say but how you say it!

Manuel: Without the support from the people we couldn't continue. We owe both those who enjoy it and those who don't. No matter what they say, they are still talking about us. We enjoy what we are doing, and realize what work is involved. We know pantomime for what it is: camp glamour and illusion. We don't consider ourselves just another drag show. We place importance on the fun and the illusion.

We sit at home and watch old TV comedy teams to see how they work together. Tootsi became the "straight man" and I became the slapstick. We couldn't work the other way around. I nurse off Tootsi, and let it all out from one orifice or another! Tootsi is really one of the easiest people to work with because there's not too much jealousy between us.

★ ★ ★

It's about time! Tootsi and Manuel are finally bringing pantomime back to an art! There are sooooo many who could learn sooooo much from these two. I certainly did in our brief encounter. Love, Nez

Hippler

(Continued from page 12)

with their outrageous antics and superb showmanship. But two and a half years ago the band split up, mainly for financial reasons.

David wasn't making any more money with the group than he was making by himself, despite the extra work involved. Furthermore, the band's fame began to overshadow David's own career, and he just couldn't see the point.

Now he plays mainly at the New Bell (Thursdays through Sundays, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.), as well as at various concerts throughout the Bay Area. He also tours, primarily on the West Coast.

When asked if he would ever consider leaving the New Bell, he replies, "You've got another place for my big organ? No, I'm

happy doing what I'm doing. I just want to keep making music." For the time being, all the music he makes will be live. There are no immediate plans for a future album. David has cut two albums in the past, however, *Flights of Fancy* and *David Kelsey and Pure Trash*.

At last my friends arrive. One of them, who has never listened to organ music in a bar before, comments, "You didn't tell me to bring my ice skates." He thinks he is being clever, but I sigh. David Kelsey is not for everyone, it seems. It helps to have a sense of humor.

Consequently, we don't stay much longer but head back outside, where the hustlers, nodding grimly to cruising motorists, constitute the principal entertainment alternative on Polk Street.

David, meanwhile, plays on into the night. ●

Handicap

(Continued from page 19)

ties and public health concerns were not in conflict in the application of laws prohibiting discrimination based on handicap. Including communicable diseases within the statute's definition of a handicap would protect both civil liberties and public health by allowing the courts to ascertain on an individual case-by-case basis whether a significant risk of transmission exists.

An extensively researched friend-of-the-court brief setting forth in detail the most recent up-to-the-minute research on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) has also been filed by the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California (ACLU/SC).

The brief was prepared on behalf of Doctors for AIDS Research and Education (DARE), a group of 32 leading medical doctors and public health specialists from hospitals and universities in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York City, Washington, D.C., Michigan, Palo Alto, Philadelphia, New Orleans, San Diego, Montreal, Honolulu and Vancouver. They have treated more than 15,000 patients with AIDS or AIDS Related Complex (ARC). They possess some of the most comprehensive in-depth knowledge of AIDS and ARC in the world.

The brief argues that persons with AIDS or who are seropositive should continue to work until—and if—they are not able to do so. Otherwise, "the nation's economic health would be strained" by large numbers of persons relying on public benefits even though they are able to work.

The brief gives this relevant information:

- Only a handful of AIDS cases to date are of unknown cause. All others are the result of infected blood products, semen or vaginal fluids coming in contact with another person's blood. There are three known exceptions—two of health care workers who did not follow Center for Disease Control guidelines while caring for AIDS patients and one of a mother who may have transmitted AIDS through breast milk.

- There is no evidence that any members of the households of more than 17,000 AIDS patients, other than sex partners of the patients, have contracted AIDS, despite kissing the patients and sharing toothbrushes, drinking glasses and toilets.

- There is no evidence of insect-borne transmission (as through mosquitoes).

- AIDS is spread primarily by anal intercourse and by sharing of infected needles. Kissing and oral-genital sex have never been documented to transmit AIDS.

- The AIDS virus is killed easily by household disinfectants, perhaps including soap and water.

- There is no evidence that AIDS is spread in the air by droplets as are the common cold and tuberculosis.

- Transmission by semen or blood accounts for virtually all reported cases. Some few were transmitted by vaginal fluids.

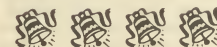
- Of 666 health care workers who penetrated their skin with a contaminated needle or splashed body fluids on mucous membranes (like lips) while caring for AIDS patients, only 26 tested seropositive, and 23 of these could have gotten AIDS another way.

- Of 30 health care workers bitten or scratched by a brain-damaged hemophiliac with AIDS, none tested seropositive six months later.

- According to U.S. Center for Disease Control guidelines, surgeons with AIDS who take limited precautions can perform surgery; children with AIDS can attend school with limited precautions; and persons with AIDS should be permitted "unrestricted access to work in food service, health care, and other work settings."

- Between one million and 1,500,000 persons in the United States are now seropositive, of whom an estimated 20-30 percent will probably fully develop AIDS.

Also joining the suit were the American Nurses Association, the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, and California Attorney General John K. Van de Kamp. ●



Training

(Continued from page 19)

mitment of 6-8 hours per week, which includes attending weekly group meetings with other counselors.

Applications for the training are available by calling 420-8181 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by coming to the AIDS Project office at 400 40th Street, Suite 200, in Oakland.

For further information, contact Corinne Lightweaver at (415) 420-8181. ●

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F O R M A L S

Electric City TV Takes To The Air

New Gay Cable Show Debuts Dec. 18

by Gregory Douthwaite

A new gay cable television production crew will begin local broadcasting this month. The group, called Electric City, will put on monthly news and entertainment programs.

The company's premiere will star comedienne Carol Fyfe as Dr. Farkle, a role she popularized on Gay Cable Network (GCN). The show will air on Viacom Cable Channel 6, on Thursday, Dec. 18, at 10 p.m.

Electric City is a business partnership between three former employees of the local office of GCN who were dissatisfied with New York-controlled programming.

"We want to do it ourselves," said producer/director Sande Mack at a press conference this week in his Castro-district home. "We don't want to be embarrassed by what we do."

Publicist and performer David Alex Nahmod explained why he left GCN: "I was bored, so was the audience."

Electric City's programming will be low-budget; the premiere will cost only \$1,000. But producers promise their monthly specials will be more polished than GCN's weekly programs.

"We will be as professional as our budget allows," said executive producer Philip Tuggle. "We will use good quality tapes to avoid the glitches you see on GCN."

The premiere, entitled "A Politically Correct X-mas: A Farkle Fable," will feature guest stars Rita Rockett and Richard Locke. It will also run on Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 8 p.m.

Cameras will begin filming the Christmas show this Sunday, Dec. 7. From 3 to 5 p.m., Dr. Farkle will be holding a gift collection for people with AIDS at the corner of 18th and Castro. Everyone, including Herb Caen

and Sylvester, is invited to bring gifts.

Next year's programs will include "issue" documentaries on subjects such as gender identity, the politics of violence, the New Right, and religion, according to anchorman and associate producer John Wetzel.

Shows will be broadcast only in San Francisco at the start, but producers hope they will be syndicated to other California cities by the end of next year, and eventually nationwide.

The program will showcase local gay talent. "As far as I'm concerned, San Francisco is the capitol of gay culture," said Tuggle.



The brains behind Electric City: David-Alex Nahmod, Dr. Farkle (Carol Fyfe) and John Wetzel. (Photo: Savage Photography)

The gay community will be featured in its diversity; drag queens and leather men will not reign supreme, according to the producers. "The intent is to

document the events around us, as well as to produce intelligent, quality television," said production manager and director Gary Robert.

Performers and technicians who are interested in working for Electric City (with or without experience) can call Sande Mack at 861-7131.

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Major funding for the educational programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health

Deaths

(Continued from page 20)

A. John Horncliff

6/10/56 - 11/20/86



Johnny, we miss you. Love, Danny, Amiko, Michiko, Salvatore, Nori, Hiroshi.

John "Sonny" Dolan 1934 - 1986

Our brother Sonny was called by the "man above" to join him on Nov. 22, two days after he had surgery at St. Francis Hospital. The cause of death was a heart attack. A memorial mass was held Nov. 25 at St. Charles Church in the Mission, where he lived for many years.



Sonny was born near Boston and worked at the Stock Exchange there and here for many years.

He moved to S.F. in 1960 and will be missed by his many friends including those at the Gangway, Phone Booth, and the Loading Zone.

Two sisters, four nieces, and two nephews survive him.

GAY
Comix
Day

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GUEST HETEROSEXUAL
Trina Robbins
"TOMMY TEENE"

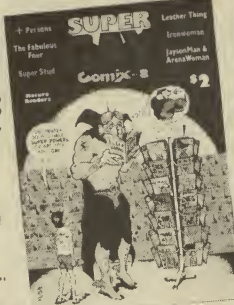
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THIS

FRIDAY 5

- **White Trash Debs and Philip R. Ford:** cabaret, Club 181, 181 Eddy St., S.F., 10 PM, Cover. White Trash Debutantes make the music, while Philip R. Ford does Elvis.
- **Mojo and Lisa Cohen:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **Judy Fjell Celebrates Malvina Reynolds:** music, Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 8 PM, \$5. Concert for women. Call 428-9684 for more information.
- **Way Out West Gang:** live dance music, High Chaparral, 2140 Market St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$2.
- **Big Band Beat:** music, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 9 PM, \$10. R&B. 18 years and over; ID required.
- **For Colored Girls . . .** stage performance, Sisterspirit, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 9 PM, \$5 to \$7. Performed by TABIA, formerly the San Jose Black Theater Workshop, directed by Charmaine Crowell. Call 293-9372 for more information.
- **Yoga Class for PWAs and PWARC:** taught by PWA, 4-5:30 in the Mission, \$5 if you can afford. Call 863-7212 for more information.
- **AIDS Prayer Vigil:** Church of the Advent of Christ the King, 261 Fell St., S.F., noon to 3 PM. Call 431-0454 for more information.
- **'I Had AIDS Workshop':** noon and 7 PM; videos at 9 PM. Call Richard Locke at 558-9650 for more information.
- **Vision play:** circle of healing and renewal using visualization and deep trance work, Quan Yin Acupuncture Center, 513 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$15 sliding scale. Led by Van Ault, certified hypnotherapist. Call 864-1362 for more information.
- **Bearclaw:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$9-\$12. By Timothy Mason, directed by Kris Gannon.
- **Salome:** stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. Oscar Wilde's *Salome* in a contemporary staging directed by Philippe Roy using Wilde's translation from the original French. A joint production of Theatre Rhino and Phase One Productions.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** service, 746 Clementina St. No. 2, S.F., 8 PM, \$2. Carnal communion to 10:30 PM, refreshments, males 18+ welcome. Call 621-1887 for more information.
- **Frank Banks:** sing-a-long piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 5:45-8 PM.

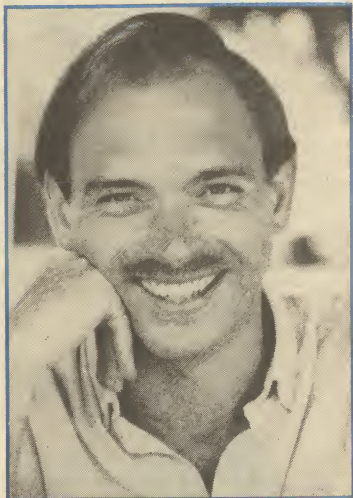
SATURDAY 6

- **Third Annual Charity Bowl:** football game between SF Trojans and Sheriff's Deputies, McAttee High School, 555 Portola Ave., S.F., 1 PM. Party from 5 to 9 PM at the I-Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F., game ticket stub is your entry. Tickets at Headlines. Proceeds to benefit the SF AIDS Fund and Meals on Wheels.
- **Meat Men:** meet some of the authors/artists of an anthology of gay male comics, a new publication by Gay Sunshine Press' editor Winston Leyland, including work by Tom of Finland, Bruce Billings, Jerry Mills, Tim Barella, Vaughn, Robert Triptow, Dave Young, and Gerard Donelan, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 3-5 PM.



Frameline does Derek Jarman beginning Dec. 9

- **First Annual International Ms. Leather:** beer bust to benefit, High Chaparral, 2140 Market St., S.F., 3-7 PM, \$5.
- **Sweet Honey in the Rock with Holly Near and Mary Watkins:** music, Berkeley Community Theatre, 8 PM, \$12.50 in advance at Bass Ticket Centers, Old Wives Tales, Modern Times Bookstore, A Woman's Place Bookstore, La Pena Cultural Center, and Marcus Books, \$15 day of show. To benefit civilians and earthquake victims in El Salvador. Sponsored by Comité El Salvador, New El Salvador Today, and the San Francisco and Oakland CISPES organizations. Call 644-3636 or 861-0425 for ticket information.
- **Blazing Redheads:** music, Pena Moai, 1944 University Ave., Palo Alto, 9 PM, \$5.
- **Melanie Monsur:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4 to \$6 sliding scale. Synthesizer, piano, guitar, and vocals.
- **Eighth Annual Celebration of Craftswomen:** craft fair, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 10 AM to 6 PM, \$2 to \$5 sliding scale, children under 12 free, senior discounts. Entertainment, food. Fridays and Saturdays through Dec. 14.
- **Mimi Fox With Robin Flower:** Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Call 428-9684 for more information.
- **Brasil Ja:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 10 PM to 1 AM, \$3. Brazilian music.
- **Temescal Gay Men's Chorus:** music, Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 10 PM. With Bob Sandner.
- **For Colored Girls . . .** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Rape Prevention:** workshop, Academy of Tae Kwon Do, 988 Oak St., S.F., 11 AM to 1 PM, \$40 for three sessions (Dec. 13 and 20 also). Open to men and women. Limited space available. Taught by Bill Dewart, chief instructor at the Academy. Call 864-4827 for more information.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike on Mount Burdell near Novato in Marin County. Meet at the big Safeway sign near Market and Church, S.F., at 8:45 AM. Moderate to strenuous 6 to 7 mile hike; rain cancels.



Jae Ross does the Great American Music Hall Dec. 8

- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** meet at Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 673-7303 for more information.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Berkeley Marina run, 9:30 AM. Take University Ave. west to Marina; meet in dirt parking lot on the left side of the road before the parking lot for the wind surfer's dock. Call 526-7592 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **Prop. 64 Review: Where Do We Go From Here?:** conference, Angela Center, Santa Rosa, 9 AM to 4:30 PM. Keynote speaker will be Sally Gearhart. Call (707) 579-9347 for more information.
- **Writers Workshop for Women:** 60+, new members welcome, 1-3 PM, sponsored by Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Gay Rescue Mission:** master and slave auction, Watering Hole, 4-7 PM.
- **Bearclaw:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Salome:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Bridge Club:** at the Ambush, 1351 Harrison St., S.F., 1 PM.

WEEK

SUNDAY 7

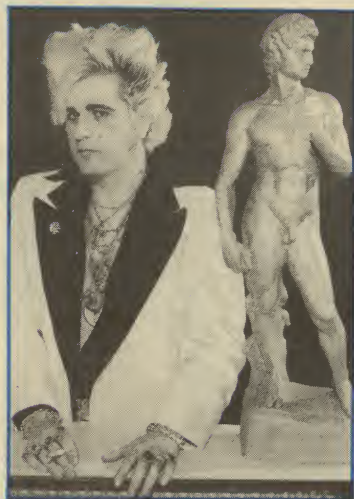
- **Rhiannon:** music, Yoshi's, 6030 Claremont Ave., Oakland, 7:30 PM, \$3. Jazz improvisation. Call 652-9200 for more information.
- **Blazing Redheads:** music, Fullmoon, 1725 Haight St., S.F., 6 PM, \$3.
- **Judy Fjell Celebrates Malvina Reynolds:** house concert, 390 Alcatraz, Oakland, 7 PM, \$5. Call 655-8604 for more information.
- **Super Natural:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$3. R&B.
- **Beer Bust:** High Chaparral, 2140 Market St., S.F., beer or soda \$6, food \$2. Dancing, entertainment. Benefit for gay square dancing. Call 621-3990 for more information.
- **Robert K. Martin:** author of *The Homosexual Tradition in American Poetry*, will speak about his work at Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3. Call 861-3078 for reservations.
- **Eighth Annual Celebration of Craftswomen:** (see Saturday for details).
- **The Widow Norton:** Christmas opera benefit show, Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 4-6 PM.
- **Grand Ducal Family:** Christmas show, Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM.
- **G40+:** meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Former Empress Sissy Spaceout will speak on 20 years of camp and chaos. Bring contributions for the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Presidio rollercoaster run. Meet at Presidio St. and Pacific Ave., S.F. Three miles, hilly. Call 673-7303 for more information.
- **San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee:** board of directors meeting, 3412 22nd St., S.F., 5 PM.
- **Prop. 64 Review: Where Do We Go From Here?:** follow-up to conference (see Saturday), 915 Mendocino Ave., Apt. 10, Santa Rosa, noon to 3 PM. Call 579-9347 for more information.
- **Integrity:** lesbian and gay affirming worship and community for Episcopalians and friends, St. John's, 1661 15th St., S.F., 5:30 PM. Call 431-5859.
- **MCC San Francisco:** worship and communion service 10:30 AM, Advent Vespers 7 PM, 150 Eureka St., S.F. Call 863-4434 for more information. Childcare provided.
- **Bearclaw:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Salome:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** (see Friday for details).
- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church:** services, 111 O'Farrell (at Gough), S.F., communion at 8:30 AM and 11 AM. Call 928-7770 for details.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship celebration, 2253 Concord Blvd., 10 AM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- **Affirmation-Gay and Lesbian Mormons:** meeting and services. Call 641-4554 for recorded message which details the meetings and socials.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** Sunday worship services, 48 Belcher St. (between 14th St. and Duboce), S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.
- **Dignity:** Sunday Mass, St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate (near Civic Center), 5:30 PM. Call 584-1714 for details.
- **Holy Trinity Church:** meets at the Billy DeFrank Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 10 AM to noon.

MONDAY 8

- **Forty Deuce:** playreading, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 7 PM. Alan Bowne (author of *Sharon and Billy*) and Joe Cappetta present Bowne's burlesque directed by Joe Cappetta with Martin Bedoian, Scott Brown, Sandy Bull, Philip Jimenez, Frank Papia, Sean Stack, and Leland Moss. Call 861-4201 for more information.
- **Jae Ross:** music, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8 PM, \$9. Jazz and rock with the Bob Bauer Trio. Tickets available at the GAMC box office (885-0750) and through BASS-Ticketmasters (762-BASS). Minors welcome.

TUESDAY 9

- **Of Angels and Apocalypse:** the cinema of Derek Jarman, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., S.F., *The Tempest*, 6 and 9:45 PM, *Sebastiane*, 8 PM. A retrospective of the maker of *Caravaggio* presented by San Francisco Cinematheque, Frameline, and the Roxie Cinema in association with the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis. Call 861-5245 for more information.



Phillip R. Ford does Elvis Dec. 5 at Club 181

- **Dinosaurs Surviving the Crunch:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. Written by Sandy Van and John Kraft. Starring Sandy Van as Kate, Tallulah, and Carol. A benefit for Theatre Rhinoceros. Call 861-5079 for reservations. Visa/Mastercard accepted.
- **Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco:** music, Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Manage in concert.
- **Sarah Schulman:** author of *Girls, Visions and Everything*, will read from her book, Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Call 428-9684 for more information.
- **Gay Cable Network:** television on Cable 6, 9-10 PM. News from New York and San Francisco plus commentary by Sally Gearhart and Joann Lawland, author of *Lesbian Sex*, on Pride and Progress. Entertainment and close-up views of community movers and shakers on The Right Stuff, hosted by Mario Mondelli.
- **21 Males:** photo portraits by Blackberri, Cafe Nidal, 2491 Mission St., S.F., reception for the artist, 8 PM.
- **BurLEZk:** erotic dance show for women, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.

WEDNESDAY 10

- **Adrienne Rich:** will read in celebration of her new poetry collection, *Blood, Bread and Poetry*, at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **Black Elegance:** benefit for the International Ms. Leather contest, 3749 17th St., S.F., 7-10 PM, \$15. Silent auction, hors d'oeuvres.
- **Of Angels and Apocalypse:** the films of Derek Jarman, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., S.F., *Jubilee* at 6 and 9:45 PM, *Sebastiane* at 8 PM. See Tuesday listing for details.
- **Max Dashu:** Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Call 428-9684 for more information.
- **Bearclaw:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

THURSDAY 11

- **Blazing Redheads:** Cesar's, 3140 Mission St., S.F., 9 PM, cover. Benefit for Mothers Tour For Peace.
- **Of Angels and Apocalypse:** the films of Derek Jarman, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., S.F., *Angelic Conversation* and *The Queen is Dead* at 6:15 and 9:45 PM, *Sebastiane* at 8 PM. See Tuesday listing for details.
- **Black and White Men Together:** general membership meeting, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Election of six steering committee members. Call 931-BWMT for more information.
- **Gay Men's Friendship Group (60+):** trip to Sausalito, meet at 10 AM at the Ferry Building, south side. Ferry over and lunch, visit to Model of Bay Area, and tour, bus back to SF. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Bearclaw:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Secret Gospel Church:** meeting, 2 PM, 746 Clementina No. 2, S.F., 2 PM. Refreshments and rap to 4 PM, \$2. Males 18+ welcome. Call 621-1887 for more information.
- **Coming Home Hospice Bingo:** Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., S.F., 6:30 PM, \$10 minimum buy-in. Come on over and join the fun... even if you've never played bingo before. An alcohol-free space. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages sold. Smoking and non-smoking areas. Early Bird specials. Door prizes and cash prizes for each game.



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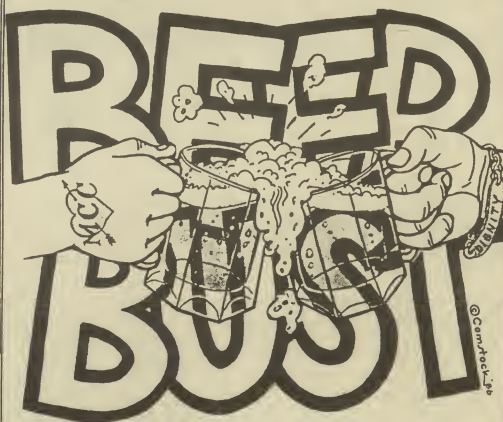
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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

Hog Heaven Chic

The Glitterati Were the Show at Wilkes' Bash

by Bob Woolhouse

Unadulterated Decadence. Lavish Attitude. Divine Madness. Outrageous Camp. Those were the ingredients, my dears, of one of the best You-Look-Maaahvelous parties since Billy Crystal discovered Fernando Lamas and virtually made a career out of the catchphrase.

The gowns, the show, the girls, and especially the boys all looked marvelous. . .

It was Wilkes Bashford's \$60,000 extravaganza, entitled Nightclub — high fashion and high camp. With this stylish, musical-comedy fundraiser, benefiting the city's Youth Program (including the Larkin St. Youth Center), Folsom intersected Pacific Heights and the Castro by way of Sutter Street as Bashford staged his particular brand of cabaret Sunday night at Bimbo's. And as it had to be — Joel Grey headlined the show.

The glitterati arrived en masse, rediscovering old friends and ex lovers they hadn't seen since the last big party two nights ago. Flashbulbs and video camera lights illuminated designer gowns, jeweled tuxedos, Nautilus bodies, \$5,000 smiles, and \$20,000 facelifts. My dears, it was nothing short of Hog Heaven Chic.

After self-parking my ghastly '72 Toyota in the Safeway lot rather than alighting from a chauffeur-driven stretch limo like everyone else, I entered the lobby to find myself in what looked like



Wilkes Bashford shows off his taste in dogs while Willie Brown tries to look white and Joel Gray tries to look butch at Wilkes' first bash to work off his 'community service' hours (Photo: M. Hitchcock)

the first act of *Mame*. It seemed as though the Beekman Place penthouse had been transported to Bimbo's with the original cast intact.

The name-recognition people were gathered at the watering hole — power brokers, the boys in the band, show-biz types, the old guard with the avant garde, Pat Steger's cast of characters, and elegant courtesans of all possible persuasions.

Posing with practiced flair for the paparazzi were suave Antony with dearest Didi, the always-together Billy and Kevin, four Don Johnson look-alikes, and the Mayor of Telegraph Hill with Aunt God. They could have eclipsed *Beach Blanket Babylon* even with Cyril Magnin on stage.

Herb Caen, leaning on a walking stick after orthoscopic surgery for Tennis Knee, called the event Bashford's "Punishment Fashion Show," his penance for the \$1 million rent dispute with the city. Sponsoring this black-tie affair was part of his 1,200 hours of community service sentence imposed by the court.

Now, darlings, you may indeed dispute the sentence, but do remember that he isn't trying to get a book out of it like the Watergate crowd, R. Foster Winans, the Mayflower Madam, or those dreadful palimony people.

After cocktails I joined my table and met a bride and groom to be who had just returned from two weeks at the Paris Ritz. The all-inclusive trip was a gift from their friends, along with the Nightclub tickets at \$150 a pop. "So much nicer than the usual bridal shower, don't you think?" he murmured.

She was ready for Christmas in a red and green satin Callanos accentuated by antique crystal chandelier drop earrings. The only person present with longer earrings was the groom, but of course he had a longer neck, and besides, they matched the large beaded brooch on his bolero dinner jacket.

They're to be married Christmas Day at — can you believe it? — Sonoma's Auberge du Soleil. One just doesn't do Grace Cathedral anymore, you know.

During dinner the simply divine young man at the piano knocked out vintage Rogers and Hart plus other meaningful old-

ies like "I'll Be Seeing You/in every lovely summer's day/in everything that's bright and gay/I'll always think of you that way . . ." My dears, they simply don't write lyrics like that anymore.

Then it was on with the show. The production exploded before us as a troupe of athletic young gypsies exercised to an aerobic version of *A Chorus Line*. It was all color and energy and pizzazz, like the clothes being introduced.

They were from the new Sport Shop collection, a parcel of original creations by Bashford and his designer, Jim Georgedes, who also staged the Nightclub production.

At this point, Speaker of the State Assembly Willie Brown — dazzling in white tails — took over as M.C., which he usually does for Bashford bashes. He deadpanned, "This (show) is real special; it's like Wilkes' coming-out party after all his trials and tribulations." Judging by the ovation from the female — as well as the male — post-debutantes, that crowd was hot for coming-out parties.

Brown declared that the next clothes to be seen were "so sexy and sultry that they shouldn't have passed customs." He described them as "Unadulterated Decadence, from the Gilda look of Rita Hayworth to the now look of Kathleen Turner," and summed it all up as unmitigated "Lavish Attitude."

After that introduction it was time to get down. And what to my wondering eyes did appear but the muscle men of Folsom in black leather harnesses, G-strings, and boots. They perpetrated the "Leader of the Pack" number choreographed, like the rest of the show, by Willie's wife, Blanche. My dears, the S.F. Eagle was flying. Defiant models of the bitch and butch variety cruised the runway in the glare of Harley-Davidson headlights.

The next fashion statement was — can you possibly guess? —

(Continued on page 36)

Women Are Sissies Too!

Southern Playwright Goes West

by Steve Warren

"There's a sort of Gothic sensibility in the gay community," smiles playwright Terry Garner, who was labeled a "Southern Gothic" writer during last year's enormously successful studio production of her *Luvin' on Salvation Street* at Theatre Rhinoceros. She hopes to peel away that label while retaining its companion, "most promising," with this week's premiere of *Sissy Goes West* at Intersection for the Arts.

While the title may remind other gay men — as it does me — of their individual journeys to San Francisco, Sissy is an 18-year-old Georgia woman who leaves home in 1965 to chase her American dream to Los Angeles.

Garner claims to be "taking the concept of women as victims to the nth degree and then turning it around." This gives the

play its Gothic flavor, an exaggerated "humor of oppression, which women certainly know." So, she points out at other times in our conversation, do blacks, gays, and Southerners. "One takes (the humor) to an extreme because one is on the outside, not allowed in, so all one can do is poke fun."

Sissy also takes Garner into what might be described as early Sam Shepard — "Sam Shepard with a kind of *Alice in Wonderland* twist," she amends — a mythical territory of symbols and barren landscapes where people are threatened by vague external forces.

The impetus for expanding her style, other than avoiding typecasting, came, Garner says, from working with Ellen Sebastian and observing a number of people, mostly involved in per-

(Continued on page 36)

Bambi Explains Herself

And How She Escaped Redwood City for the Cockettes and the Galaxy Club

by Jon Sugar

In San Francisco, everything is debatable. In 1986, amongst talk of gay rights and women's struggles, it's easy for someone like Bambi Purcell to be forgotten about completely.

Johnny Purcell grew up in Redwood City, had a relatively normal childhood, and was quite popular with the girls, graduating a B+ student from the local high school. Times were different then, if you will, for John changed his name to Bambi and now lives as a woman. He is a she now (at least partially, having breasts but keeping her penis), and works at the Galaxy Club on Broadway as a stripper, entertaining sailors, yuppies, and tourists who all pay to see Bambi's charms.

Bambi sings torch songs at the Club 181 on Saturdays to a sometimes appreciative audience. Life hasn't been easy for Bambi, living on Polk Street with hustlers and other outcasts, as she has for years, but she's not unhappy and she's led a very interesting life, doing everything from working the streets to touring with world-renowned recording stars and playing the lead in Lloyd Stensrud's *The Mary Club*, a play about a surviving drag queen in Miami after the bomb is dropped. Her fans love her. Some remember her from the Angels of Light shows in the '70s. The Strangers took Bambi with them on their European tour in 1983 after seeing her strip show in a

(Continued on page 36)

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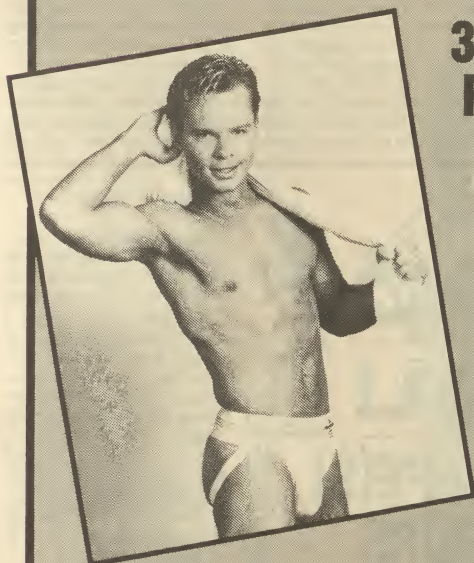
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Arthur Tress: Ritually Dancing With the World

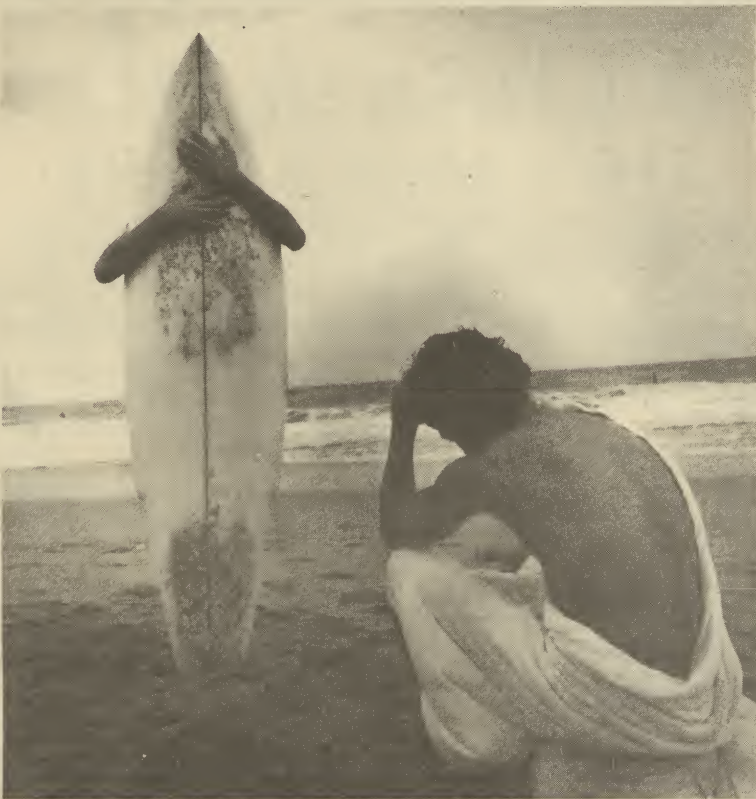
by Mark I. Chester

Photographers are weird people. I know. It may be all that time spent in small dark rooms with poor ventilation and funny smelling chemicals. Or it may be because they are caught in an unsolvable paradox: The camera never lies, but it doesn't always tell the truth. The camera is only a mechanical instrument that records reflected light on a light-sensitive material. But when that reflection is filtered through the photographer's eye, a magical transformation occurs; the truth that we see is just the photograph's reflection on the mirror of our soul.

For Arthur Tress, the photograph is a magical object, conceived in a strange, mystical process. According to Tress, the magical photograph goes "beyond the immediate context of the recorded experience into realms of the undefinable." It is in this dark dimension that Tress has been photographing since the mid 1960s. *Talisman* (Thames and Hudson Inc., \$19.95, paperback), Tress' latest book, offers a retrospective look at the explosively different work created by Tress over the last 20 years.

Tress, working in a square format, is best known for a number of series of photographs that explore and expose the human psyche against a backdrop of rituals, dreams, fantasies, death, sex, and archetypal energy. Included in this are images from Tress' *Facing Up*, homo-erotic themes photographed on the abandoned piers in New York.

Using his photographic frame as if it were a stage, Tress has his photographic subjects create little psychodramas, slowly, step-by-step, instinctively digging deeper into their hidden thoughts, passions, fears, and desires. A wide-angle lens and a tilting perspective add to the sense that something other-worldly is going on in these images. Tress also opposes a figure in the foreground with an object or person in the distant



Surfers, Miami 1980

background, automatically creating a mysterious connection, if somewhat stagey and set up.

Out of this process the viewer gets: Ed Berman standing next to his bedraggled mother in a middle-class housecoat, her hand pinioned by the iron in his hand; a young, long-haired rocker wearing a Led Zeppelin t-shirt pointing a gas pump nozzle suggestively out from his crotch like a giant cock, his down-home Mom leaning up against the gas pump, one finger suggestively pointed

at her crotch; a nude man with a tumescent cock, sitting in a cemetery with a skull hiding his face.

But it is the overview of the rest of Tress' career that makes this book particularly interesting and worthwhile. The work is radically different from the first four series. *Shadows* is an out-of-print Avon book that uses only shadow photographs Tress took of himself to tell a story of discovery and the search for enlightenment. Tress' shadow portraits, with their elongated body perspec-

tives and highly angled camera perspectives, make these images vibrate with life-energy. It is an unusual, creative, and technically difficult project.

And there is more. A series of constructions made from found objects that finds its inspiration in the work of the surrealists. A series of color photographs called "The Presidential Cabinet" focusing on human skull constructions that are color saturated and blazing with a scathing combination of dada and punk

energy. These photographs are so well crafted, they could easily be made into full-scale drawings or paintings. A series of black and white photographs of abstract designs and constructions, some with spray painting or rubbings, take as much from the abstract design photographs of the 1930s as they do from the design and perspective-based drawings by Ed Ruscha.

Possibly the most unusual photographs are a series of color photographs of still constructions on a small stage set called "The Teapot Opera." Exploring the process of artistic creation, Tress has created an intellectually abstract story that uses the archetypal myths of creation, heroic quest, and apocalyptic destruction in eternally repeating cycles.

Talisman also contains formerly unpublished texts by Tress talking about the series represented in the book. In talking about *Facing Up* Tress says, "I have had a homosexual orientation since I was ten years old." While this does not sound like an exceptional declaration, it is. It is one thing to photograph men, even men in erotic situations, but to admit your homosexuality in print is a rare step for someone in the photographic mainstream.

Talisman has been laid out with a simple efficiency that adds to the power of the photographs. Arranged for the most part chronologically, most pages contain only a single photograph. The stock is a semi-gloss and the printing is exceptional except in achieving a deep black, the most common printing problem with photographs.

Arthur Tress is a photographer who happens to be gay, exploring on the edge. With *Talisman*, he stakes his claim for a piece of photographic history without turning his back on his sexual identity. It is a magical act and one worth supporting. ●

Folsom Follies

The Inter-Club Fund will present the Folsom Follies Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. at the California Club, 1750 Clay St. Admission is \$10.

The Inter-Club Fund is a non-profit, philanthropic group of motorcycle club members devoted to helping each other by endowing grants for health care, accidents, and financial assistance.

The Fund's major fundraiser this year will be the Folsom Follies. As in the past this annual event is the highlight of the party season and for the first time this original cabaret revue will be a Christmas celebration.

Tickets are available at Mr. S Products, 227 7th St., S.F. Call 668-3115 for more information. ●

Holiday Carols

The choir of the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco will perform Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria* with a chamber orchestra Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. at the church, 150 Eureka St. The performance will be part of an Advent Vesper service which will also include the music of Holst, Praetorius, Billings, and Handel along with festive holiday carols. The service is free. Call 863-4434 for more information. ●

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MeatMen, and Women Too

This year's hottest Christmas gift will undoubtedly be *MeatMen*, a hefty 200-page anthology of heated-up gay comics published by Gay Sunshine Press (paper, \$10.95). The book's sock-it-to-ya collection of sex and satire will rock your socks off—and maybe even sock your rocks off.

And that's the idea, too. The book is not merely a historical overview of gay comics, ranging from Blade's pioneering "Truck-Hiker" of the late 1940s up 'til today's most popular artists, but a political broadside of liberation, hot-and-heavy style. These comics may only be lines on paper, but, as cartoonist Jerry Mills points out in his introduction, "the same could be said about the blueprints for the atomic bomb." *MeatMen* is explosive on nearly every page, and while Mill's introduction links the hand-in-hand flowering of gay life with the flourishing of gay comics, a note from publisher and editor Winston Leyland explains why this collection packs such a wallopp.

"I've long enjoyed creating 'shocking' dichotomies, contrasts," says Leyland. His GS Press has a history of publishing literary works and sex tales in close juxtaposition—sometimes within the same covers. Leyland filled volumes of gay poetry with hard-on art work, and followed up his critically acclaimed collection of Latin American gay fiction, *My Deep Dark Pain is Love*, with the jack-off anthologies *Trash*, *Lust*, and *Hot Studs*. While it's true that sales of the sex titles support the literary titles, there's more to Leyland's method, and less distance in the work's supposed dichotomies than people presume.

The contrasts created by Leyland at Gay Sunshine throw light on the barriers which have long held back gay rights and culture. "Obviously," says Leyland, "sex is politics is politics is politics." When he shows us sex in art, we can discern the art in sex. Comics, combining pictorial and literary forms, do this simultaneously. And that explains why Leyland's collection of comics is so pointed and on the mark. In *MeatMen*, Leyland has combined the dichotomies of his press in one book.

Ranging over 30 years of comics, Leyland looked for work that was not only humorous, but thought-provoking and sexy. Attempting a balance, Leyland claims only one-third of this collection is sexually explicit, with due attention paid to fantasy, lifestyles, and politics. But these comics are gay, and even when not explicit, sexuality is implicit and pervasive, in the drawings or between-the-line atmosphere.

The sexually explicit sections include a classic Tom of Finland tale, the hilarious take-off on *Star Wars*, Sean's "Come Wars" (how does he think up these couplings?) and pages of A. Jay's "Harry Chess," Bill Ward's "Drum," and Stephen's "Meatmen," among other rock-hard tales.

Perhaps the most sophisticated of comics is here, Tom Hachtman's "Gertrude's Follies," as well as scrumptious pages devoted to Jerry Mills' "Poppers." These panels, together with Howard Cruse's "Billy Goes

Out," combine sex with satire to amazing proportions. Billy's night out, from 6 o'clock news to cruising the bars, then crawling through after-hours sex clubs to his near-dawn arrival home, is accompanied in split panels by his non-stop inner monologue. His penis, his parents, his past, and his conscience mimic his every move and desire. It's an amazing sequence, brilliantly realized and carried out, and though sharp, it doesn't sting. This is affectionate satire, and the height of Cruse's work. It's typical of *MeatMen*, and Leyland's pungent sensibility, that this strip shows up here and not in another company's full-length collection of Cruse's work. Leyland goes for the sharpest work his artists have created, and the resulting collection scores again and again. It's hard to pick out a favorite, and they're all here: a blast from the past, "Miss Thing," the mod stylings of "Jason," interracial romance from Burton Clarke, bi-

sexuality from Robert Triptow, photo-realism from Nico, fables from Michael Goldberg . . . on and on.

The only trouble with giving *MeatMen* as a Christmas gift is that you won't be able to wait 'til then to open it! For a special treat, meet some of the contributing artists and editor Leyland at the Walt Whitman Bookshop on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 5 p.m.

★ ★ ★

Two other Gay Sunshine books plow perhaps overtilled ground, giving the customer what he thinks he wants but in truth has already had. *Trucker, Volume 2* (paper, \$10.95) brings us yet another collection of basically homophobic trucker stories—blow jobs in roadside johns, deep pumping in diesel cabs, and cheese-licking in back alleys.

Neither well-written, imagi-

(Continued on page 44)



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Satanic Influences

Although conservative fundamentalists — who often invoke the National Enquirer and Holy Bible as legitimate firsthand sources of information — keep trying to tell people that AIDS is God's vengeance against some purported homosexual alliance with the Devil, that's hardly the truth. Indeed, from what I've been seeing recently on operatic stages it would seem as if Satan — just like the overwhelming statistics on child molestation — is decidedly heterosexual. Even in those instances when Lucifer loses a round, the Faust legend hardly supports the "Right to Life" movement because, thanks to Mephisto's cunning devices, lyric sopranos keep getting knocked up and drowning their infants on stages across America.

In any event, the good news is that two operas based on the age-old tale of the man who sold his soul to the devil received commendable revivals this fall. This is particularly heartening since, in recent years the New York City Opera's *Mefistofele* had lost much of its dramatic punch while the San Francisco Opera's *Faust* had always been looked upon as a bit of a dog. News of their newfound health is even more gratifying when one considers that each of these productions is nearly 20 years old.

BOYS WILL BE BOYS

In 1977, when Jacques Karpou staged *Faust* for the San Francisco

Opera, his production included such questionable touches as a mirrored disco ball intended to reflect the light from Marguerite's jewels all over the stage. This fall, with Wolfram Skalicki's original sets modified by SFO's resident lighting designer, Thomas J. Munn, the third act of Gounod's opera was substantially reworked. The statues which once seemed to come to life before the terror-stricken Marguerite in Act III's church scene are now gone and have been replaced by the sight of Valentin's dead body, stretched out on a funeral bier against a stained-glass background.

Even more important, the opera's apotheosis has been reworked into a glorious piece of melodramatic kitsch. Director Francesca Zambello — who experimented with this ending in Houston last year — has further enhanced the effect in San Francisco by using a larger staircase, a deeper stage, increased fog, and a star-lit sky drop. Although Zambello and conductor Jean Fournet did their best to transform this revival into a viable *Faust* production, a steady string of cast changes undermined much of the event's dramatic freshness.

As seen with Justino Diaz, Luis Lima, Alan Titus, and Mary Jane Johnson heading up the cast, Gounod's most popular work was clearly mounted but noticeably lacking in electricity. Some of this may have been because the

four principals involved are basically second stringers within the opera profession; artists who suffer from what is known as "the All-American syndrome." In other words, they are highly efficient vocal and dramatic craftsmen who lack the essential charisma to become major stars. While their work is laudable and extremely well-produced, it often remains on a par with that of Judith Christin's Marthe, Mark Delavan's Wagner, and Kathryn Cowdrick's Siebel: functionally very good, but decidedly not great.

THE DEVIL GETS HIS DUE

When Ron Bentley (who was originally scheduled to stage the New York City Opera's production of *Mefistofele* this fall) died of AIDS in September, Beverly Sills asked her old friend, Gigi Denda, to come to the rescue. As Tito Capobianco's wife, Denda had been in on this historic production from its conception in 1969, when it was first mounted for Norman Treigle. She has since staged it for a variety of regional American opera companies.

Whether due to the emergency nature of her participation in this revival or the fact that bass-baritone John Cheek was making his long-overdue City Opera debut in the title role, the opening night of *Mefistofele* glowed with dramatic energy. David Mitchell's sets, combined with Hans Sondheimer's lighting, are still



Mephisto (Justino Diaz) and Faust (Luis Lima) were just a couple of guys out for a night on the town in Gounod's *Faust*.

quite effective, although the orgy scene during the Witches' Sabbath now has an air of nostalgia to it.

Much of the evening's excitement came from Christopher Keene's conducting of the powerful music in Boito's prologue and John Cheek's willingness to throw himself wholeheartedly into the role of the devil. Cheek created a more sardonic and malevolent portrayal of Mefisto-

fele than this production has enjoyed for quite some time, his hearty voice and forceful body language drawing loud and appreciative ovations from the audience. His was one of the more triumphant debuts in the history of the New York City Opera.

In the tenor role, Robert Grayson offered a sturdy, if one-dimensional Faust. However, soprano Marianna Christos pulled

(Continued on page 44)

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by David-Alex Nahmod

Christopher Strong (1933)
Directed by Dorothy Arzner

In the mid 1920s, Dorothy Arzner was politely informed that women simply didn't direct films. By the time she voluntarily retired in 1943, she had more than a dozen features to her credit, and had directed many of the top stars of her day. She spent the remainder of her life teaching at various universities.

Christopher Strong is at the moment the only Dorothy Arzner film available on home cassette, although the one starring Joan Crawford, *The Bride Wore Red* (1937), and the feminist musical *Dance Girl, Dance* (1940) are both likely candidates for future release.

Christopher Strong is a morality tale about the tragedies of adultery. The screenplay has decidedly feminist touches, and the female lead, Lady Cynthia Darrington (Katherine Hepburn), is at first a fiercely independent woman. But Hollywood was and is controlled by men, and while Lady Cynthia, the famed aviatrix, gets to defy convention and play butch for about half the film, her illicit affair with Sir Christopher Strong (Colin Clive) unexplainedly turns her into a whining suicidal mouse. Strong is a man of good character and no backbone, so he gladly returns to his snotty society wife.

A film that at the outset looked like it was going to be a 1930s feminist statement, *Christopher Strong* takes a nosedive about

halfway through the proceedings. An interesting historical piece, one can only wonder if Dorothy Arzner's work was tampered with by RKO Studios.

Hester Street (1976)
Directed by Joan Micklin Silver

A flawed but still impressive first-feature from New York-based director Joan Micklin Silver, *Hester Street* is a lovely story about old world and new world cultures at odds. Set in New York City in 1896, it tells the story of an Americanized Jewish immigrant on the Lower East Side and his young wife who is determined to hold onto the ways of her East European *shtetel* (village).

Spoken partially in English and partly in Yiddish with English titles, the most memorable aspect of *Hester Street* becomes its decidedly American cast, including *Taxi*'s Carol Kane, *Remington Steele*'s Doris Roberts, and the late Dorrie Kavanagh, all of whom do a splendid job maintaining their Jewish accents and speaking a language they very likely learned to do this film. Their performances are all superb, with special accolades to Kavanagh, the film's only Gentile cast member, whose acting is especially convincing.

Hester Street has some annoying technical flaws. Microphones are visible on occasion, and a few of the scenes are overlit, rendering some of the subtitles unread-

(Continued on page 44)

Steve Warren

More Jarmania and Home-Groan Sci-Fi

If *Caravaggio* was your introduction to gay filmmaker Derek Jarman you may or may not want to catch up on his earlier films. *Frameline* gives you a chance next week with a four-day retrospective.

Sebastiane, Jarman's homoerotic, Latin-dialogued — pay attention and you'll learn how to say "motherfucker" in the ancient tongue — tale of the making of a martyr is tedious but offers lovely manscapes and interesting underlying ideas. I've seen it three times. It plays next Tuesday through Thursday at the Roxie with a different co-feature each night: *Jubilee* (Wednesday) is a bizarre satirical reminder that England's punk movement was about politics, not just music and fashion. *The Tempest* (Tuesday) is Jarmanized Shakespeare, outrageous but not satisfying. *Angelic Conversation* (Thursday with *The Queen Is Dead*, the Smiths' music video) is a wordless gay love story to a soundtrack of Judi Dench reading Shakespearean sonnets, blown up from super-8 with eyestraining results.

We'll preview the final day, super-8s at the Cinematheque, next week.

BACK TO THE PRESENT

"We were shooting in San Francisco," William Shatner told Joan Rivers. "We wore our costumes and nobody gave us a second look." If I'm going to watch that lousy show I may as well get some quotes out of it.

Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home is both the most predictable and the most fun of the big-screen series. Coincidentally, with the popularity of time-travel movies, the familiar crew of the temporarily destroyed (see *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock*) Starship Enterprise encounters one of the rare problems that can't be dealt with in a futuristic setting; they have to come back to our present to Save the Whales.

It seems that in the 23rd century an alien space probe is about to unwittingly destroy Earth because it can't make contact with humpback whales, which have been extinct since the 21st century. Stop giggling, dammit — this is the serious part! The UFO is phallus-shaped, with one testicle that looks like a soccer ball suspended by a scrotal light.

The Enterprisers are bound for Earth to answer charges based on their misconduct in the last movie (did they expect Oscars?) when they get word of what's happening. Before you can sing "Let's do the time warp again" they're landing in Golden Gate Park in 1986, a simpler time when you could ride a Muni bus from North Beach to downtown Sausalito. They split into teams for a three-part mission: A) round up two humpback whales; B) get plexiglass to build a tank to transport them in; and C) siphon off nuclear power from — what else? — the USS Enterprise to recharge their Klingon crystals.

One of the screenwriters, Nicholas Meyer, is the link between *Star Trek* (he directed *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*) and time-travel-to-present-day-San Francisco movies (he wrote and directed the semi-classic *Time After Time*). The four of them have peppered the script with amusing but mundane touches

on the way to a conclusion so foregone that, under Leonard Nimoy's otherwise capable direction, there is very little excitement, let alone suspense. The unimportance of the plot is evidenced in the sound mix, where in crucial moments the dialogue is submerged beneath Leonard Rosenman's music. This points to one of the film's themes, the value of emotion over reason, stressed in the retraining of Spock, who at the beginning is still "not exactly working on all thrusters."

You'll be happy to know that San Francisco Bay has warmed up by the 23rd century, so the cast is able to splash around in it without turning blue. (Regency I, Century Plaza, Geneva)

ROLLERBABIES

Solarbabies seems to have been written by a computer programmed with elements from a number of successful movies — *The Road Warrior*, *Star Wars*, *Lord of the Rings*, and *Rollerball* among them — with the obligatory teenage twist.

In this world of the future, the evil Protectorate controls the water to keep the population under its thumb. They put children in state orphanages to train them to be "useful." These kids not only play skateball but also use roller skates for transportation and hockey sticks as weapons. The chief rivals at Orphanage 43 are the Solarbabies, darlings of kindly warden Charles Durning, and the Hitlerjungen-type Scorpions under Richard Jordan, head of the crypto-fascist E-Police.

A glowing sphere named Bohdi arrives from space to set things right, adopting baby Solarbaby Lukas (*Witness*) Haas as its keeper. And the chase is on, with the kids skating across the desert(!) from one strange outpost to another. When they eventually destroy the Protectorate, restoring weather to the world, Bohdi returns to space; but the last line, as original as everything else in the movie, says that like the Force, Bohdi "will always be with us."

Some of the Rollerbabies aren't bad to look at, if the jury is still out regarding their acting ability. They include debuting Jason Patric, blond Peter Kowanko, Peter (son of Dom) DeLuise and Adrian (*Streets of Gold*) Pasdar. Jami Gertz is less obnoxious than she was in *Crossroads* and *Quicksilver*.

Solarbabies doesn't improve on any of the films it imitates, so you're better off renting the originals. (Presidio, Century Plaza)

... A FEW GOOD WIMPS

We'll review Clint Eastwood's *Heartbreak Ridge* next week, but the Department of Defense has already seen it and found it wanting. They've canceled scheduled benefit openings and ordered the Marine Corps to withhold further cooperation.

Their objection? Eastwood, who plays a Marine sergeant, is too macho. He drinks heavily, swears a lot, and shoots someone in the back — three things no real Marine would ever do.

If the Corps wants to promote a new image, perhaps they should

(Continued on page 44)

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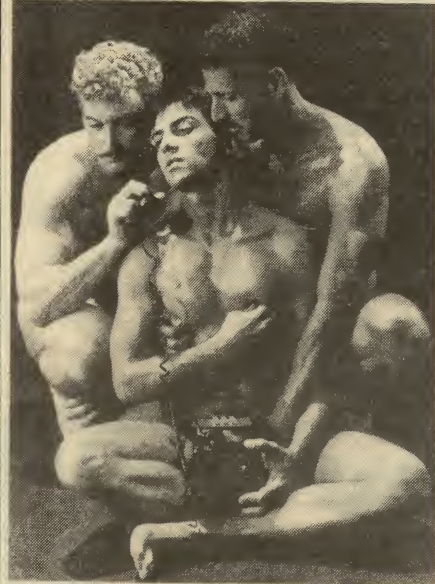
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Mr. Marcus

Rushing Headlong Into The Countdown

Can you believe it's the end of the year already? Only 21 days until Christmas and I'll bet you haven't even started shopping yet! Time to get out that plastic and embark on a spending spree you'll be paying for until next May.

It has been a busy year for everyone. The Cable Car Awards people are busy getting all the facts together for their presentations next year. Committees have been formed and already they're cruising the city getting materials together for your decorations, parties, fundraisers, etc. The great amount of effort put forth by the men and women of this community will be scrutinized for nomination. Put your best foot forward for outstanding achievement in virtually every field of endeavor.

As this is being written late on Monday night, word just reached me that the Ambush closed its portals at the close of business due to insurance problems. I will bring you up to date on any developments. This, just after celebrating their 13th Anniversary over the Thanksgiving weekend. If anyone went hungry in this community it's a shame. There were free dinners all over the place besides at the Ambush, including the SF Eagle and the Empress Tessie Memorial dinner. Thank you all for donating the turkeys, hams, and other goodies provided for the gay seniors and all the needy.



Tonight, the Endup will conduct another search for the 1988 Buns Calendar; I would like to invite David Saks and Paul Gonzales to be judges tonight or any contest night in the future if they believe the contests are fixed/rigged or in any way other than the way the points are accumulated for the contestants. Having McD countless contests in San Francisco for more than a



Wally and Eddie, newcomers from New Orleans, made a surprise visit to the Sandmutopia (Drummer store) opening (Photo: R. Pruzan)

decade, I can truthfully say I would have absolutely no part of any such irregularities. I often try to select judges who may be visiting from another city/country and ordinary bar patrons without titles, including women. The judges you complained about in your recent letter to this publication are of high integrity, and the Australian woman judge had only been in town for some six hours when I picked her. The

winner of the contest garnered 600 vote tickets from the audience and while your assessment of his buns may have been to the contrary, the other 598 voters could not be accused of a "conspiracy" either. The winner had only been in town a week himself! Personally, I was quite dismayed at his lack of cooperation in answering the few questions required of most contestants, but I

(Continued on next page)



The SF Eagle and Leather & Blue motorcycle clubs escorted Brent Earle into the City by the Bay San Francisco-style (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



The crowd at City Hall at the conclusion of the Milk/Moscone Candlelight March Nov. 27 (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

don't get to vote and the decision of the audience and the judges is absolutely final. The invitation for you both to be judges stands up to the final contest. Your move, David and Paul.



You'll be getting lots of invitations to festive parties in the coming weeks, but if it's not your thing or you prefer other social endeavors you could check out the following: This Saturday, the SF Trojans go up against the SF Deputy Sheriffs in the third annual Charity Bowl, a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund and Meals on Wheels. The Trojans believe in the old adage, "the third time is the charm,"

and will try to make it come true this year. The team has been defeated soundly in both previous efforts. I talked with a lot of the players last Sunday afternoon at their beer bust at the Eagle and they all seem confident of victory. The Trojan Boosters worked their little fannies to the bone last Sunday as another mob scene was on hand to meet the players, eat barbecued chicken, and cruise heavily. The kickoff this Saturday, Dec. 6, is at 1300 at McAteer High and tickets are going fast at both Headlines stores. Your \$5 stub also entitles you to a post-game victory party and dance at the I-Beam. I wonder how Fred Badelamente let that happen! Go Trojans Go!

There's an auction for Karl Stewart at the Galleon that day as well as a beer bust at the High Chaparral for the Ms. Interna-

tional Leather Steering Committee from 1500-1900 hours for a paltry \$5. Let's get out and help Mistress Kathy get this extravaganza going.

And there's still time to get your logo into the parade committee if you hurry. They'll be deciding a three-color design at their meeting Dec. 9, so get busy!

Inter-Club Fund presents the Folsom Follies Sat., Dec. 13, at the California Club and tickets are only \$10. Doors open at 1800, curtain 2000, and this one promises to be great! Still no word on the Cheaters M/C Presidents Convention!

Rita Rockett's 5th Annual Reunion and Xmas Party is set for Friday, Dec. 12, to benefit Ward 5-A Buffets and Christmas Day '86 party for the patients. It's at the High Chaparral from

2000 to 0200 so bring small animals, books, stationery, shaving kits, games, etc. DJ Odie Campbell will spin the discs!

There's a beer bust benefit for the AIDS Rest Stop at the Eagle Fri., Dec. 12, too with fabulous door prizes including a Sony Trinitron Color TV, a two-night stay at that great RushRiv resort, The Willows, and other goodies from the Obelisk, All That Jazz, and others. Sable Clown entertains and tickets are \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door.

Lights for Life, the annual lighting ceremony, begins at the Eagle Thursday, 18 Dec.—\$5 a light for AIDS patients.

Also be reminded that nominations are open all this month at the Eagle for the Golden Dildeaux Awards—know anyone who fits into the 22 categories?

Mobilization Against AIDS is having a "Kiss '86 Goodbye" party at the Endup Wed., Dec. 17, from 2000 to 2400—come and meet every celebrity in town. It

will be a party similar to their Spring Fling earlier this year.

If you're not a gad-about you might get the Mr. Drummer '86 Video from M.E.N. Video—only \$59.95 for the one-hour leather-thon. Check it out!



The decision has been made. Ms. Peckerhead will Co-MC the Annual Golden Dildeaux Awards with former Mr. Leather Daddy Tom Roller at the SF-Eagle Sunday, Jan. 25 at the Eagle—the nominations are rolling in already. Have you nominated anyone yet? Anyone who gets seven nominations gets on the ballot. The voting begins New Years Day and will cost you \$1 a ballot. Brian Berger got 27 nominations on the first day of nominating! (In several categories!)

WHEN DISH TURNS TO SHOVE & VICE-VERSA

The SF Fire Dept. has been (Continued on next page)



Brent Earle (r.) looking good on the last leg of his 3,000-mile run for the end of AIDS (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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Mark Friesse

I Do Like to Party!

The start of the holiday season has been deluged with birthday parties, and Wayne Friday has already committed himself to no less than 400 birthday parties as a result of his highly successful birthday party last week at the Comstock Club. For those of you who weren't there you certainly missed a who's who party in the old style. The party raised \$6,000, money that will be split between the S.F. AIDS Emergency Fund and Coming Home Hospice. A comment that was made by Soderia Wilson was overheard by Moi, and definitely summed up the feeling of the evening. That was, "a nice party for a good man, and a good cause." I knew there was more than one reason I voted for Soderia!

As a pleasant breather between the parties, Bob Golovich invited 200 of his closest friends to have Thanksgiving dinner with him at Sutter's Mill, and quite a party it was! The dinner was fabulous and the Mariachi Band that entertained was excellent, with the singing of Pauline and Teresita

'When the next party will happen is anyone's guess, but be prepared!'

complementing them nicely. The seating arrangements at these parties are always interesting as the table I was at included Pauline, Randy Johnson, Allen White, Henry Leleu, and other enchanting people. Needless to say there was a little bit of dirt that flew around that particular table, and one can only guess the conversations at the other tables! A very nice way to spend Thanksgiving, and my thanks to you, Bob!

Sunday was Sweetlips' 64th birthday at Ginger's Too and the crowd that showed up was indeed a cross-section of the community. Reba was working his first job in a while, but we won't go into that. Bette Bonko and Paul Ruehl were being their usual humorous selves, the Bumps family were there promising me they would soon add another room to their Lake Merced villa so I can move in, providing I bring my extensive collection of magazines! Once again the food by Beverley was outstanding, and of course Sweetlips was the gracious hostess as he left the following day for holiday in Portland. When the next party will happen is anyone's guess, but be prepared!

Tonight the Gay Games II Board of Directors will present the Gay Games II Awards Night at the Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St. The party is from 8 'til 11 p.m. and there will be food, a no-host bar, and music by Beau Thomson. By the way, Beau Thomson is now playing all Thursday nights at the Troc, and is a nice addition to their DJ line-up!

June Starling is proof that you can't keep a good girl down! As most of you know she had a heart attack and is now recovering nicely. Part of her therapy is the "Holiday Handcraft Raffle" she has put together for the Godfather Service Fund to help finance the Christmas dinners for persons with AIDS in various San Francisco hospitals. The tickets are now on sale from vari-

ous people, and some of the prizes include a handmade Raggedy Ann and Andy, a stained glass gay flag, handmade afghan, and other prizes to be announced. The tickets cost \$1, and the drawing will be held Dec. 21 with the location to be announced soon. Need not be present to win!

Once again there will be a benefit by *Greater Tuna* to benefit the Night Ministry. This year's benefit will take place this Sunday at the Mason St. Theatre, 340 Mason St., and the performances will be at 3 and 7 p.m. with all the tickets priced at \$15. You can reserve tix or get more info by calling 392-7461. Kudos to *Greater Tuna* for all their efforts for the Night Ministry!

Pearl Harbor Day, Sunday the 7th, looks like it will be busy all around as Emperor Matthew and Empress Sable invite you to a beer bust at the S.F. Eagle from 3 to 6 p.m. for the 45th anniversary of Pearl getting bombed — another excuse to drink! The cost will be \$6 and that will include beer, food, and of course the usual glamour and excitement that goes with these events.

Don't put away the Sunday portion of your calendar yet as the Galleon will present two smart soirees for your enjoyment. From 4 to 6 p.m. it will be the Widow Norton's Christmas Opera Benefit Show. And at 8 p.m. you can join the Grand Ducal Family for their Christmas Party and Show. Somehow it doesn't seem Christmas should be here quite so soon!

Larry O'Leno is holding forth at the New Bell Saloon Monday and Tuesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. and is also playing at Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., a couple nights a week with Pauline joining him on Wednesday evenings.

Upcoming events for the holidays include Tatiana's Christmas Party for the Shanti Project at the High Chaparral Thursday, Dec. 11, from 8 p.m. 'til midnight, with the cost being a \$5 donation. The evening is dedicated to Lady Gene Forrest. Rita Rockett will be taking over the High Chaparral the following evening for her 5th annual Family Reunion and Christmas Party that also is a benefit for Ward 5-A Branches and the Christmas 1986 Day Party. This party goes from 8 p.m. 'til 2 a.m. and will feature the music of D.J. Odis Campbell.

The Inter-Club Fund will present Folsom Follies at the California Club, 1750 Clay, Saturday, Dec. 13, with the doors opening at 6 p.m. and the show starting at 8 p.m. The New Bell will host a Christmas Plant Auction Sunday, Dec. 14, for the Open Hand meal program that delivers meals to persons with AIDS and AIDS Related Conditions. The auction starts at 2 p.m. and the New Bell is pleased to announce that we will have Camille as our hostess and also a featured entertainer for that day!

Is the proverbial dirt being flung in the race for Emperor and Empress, I think not! After all these are adults that are thinking of vying for this title, and it is the holidays! But time will tell, and if time doesn't, I will!

I guess I will close for now and rest up for the next column when I am positive to be deluged with the rest of the events for the season, and remember I do like to party! Hope all yours are joyful!



This was not the Headdress Ball, but the SF Opera's Fol De Rol last Monday (Photo: R. Pruzan)



"My girlfriend's gone and I'm horny."



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Bazaar Calendar

THURSDAY 11/4

A Night For Everyone, Kimo's, 8 p.m., sponsored by the Grand Ducal Court.

FRIDAY 11/5

Victory Party, for Mr. Gay Don and Miss Gay Kitty, Kokpit, 8-11 p.m.

CMC Chapter Check (O.M.), SF Eagle, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 11/6

A Trip To The Races (Bay Meadows), sponsored by The Galleon and The Village, bus leaves 10:30 a.m. from Galleon, 10:45 a.m. from the Village, \$25 includes bus, program, res. seat, lunch in the Club House.

Benefit Auction for Karl Stewart, Men's Room, 2-5 p.m.

GSL Meeting, Trax, noon.

SUNDAY 11/7

Blaire Thanks SF, Men's Room, 2-6 p.m.

Imperial Beer Bust, SF Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$6.

The Widow Norton's Christmas Opera Benefit, Galleon, 4-6 p.m.

Bobby Callicoatte in Concert, Kokpit, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY 11/9

Annual Christmas Party, Castro Station, 8 p.m.

Compiled by Karl Stewart and Diedre



Bambi performs

Bambi

(Continued from page 26)

San Francisco club.

★ ★ ★

Jon Sugar: Explain yourself, Bambi.

Bambi: When I came to San Francisco, I wanted to sing, wanted everyone to like me, so I worked with the Cockettes, joined the Angels of Light, met Divine and John Waters, went to Europe, lived in Berlin, met Bowie and Iggy Pop, started hormones, came back to S.F., became a punk rocker, met the Clash, Johnny Thunders, joined Verses with Olga de Volga, went to L.A. with Frightwig.

J.S.: What do you want to do now?

B.: I want to do a video about a beautiful transvestite cabaret star with magic powers who lives in the past and the future. In the past I would rescue Marie Antoinette from the guillotine and meet Dorian Grey. In the future, I'd battle road warriors and Japanese robots. Flash to 1940, I'd open a finishing school for English schoolboys on the French Riviera. I'd go to Tom-of-Finland-Land, create a gay army, and liberate France from Hitler.

★ ★ ★

Oh, how Bambi goes on. She looks marvelous, with her own beautiful platinum blonde hair.

I accompanied her to an antique dress store where she picked up a '40s gown priced at \$200. Her beauty does not come cheap.

★ ★ ★

J.S.: Do you have any personal heroes?

B.: Oscar Wilde, Japanese comics; I think I do the best Dietrich and I always have.

★ ★ ★

From a very early age Bambi demanded dolls from her parents. There were six boys and two girls in Johnny Purcell's Irish Catholic family, and Bambi didn't know she was a boy until the second grade. As far as sex was concerned, Bambi never had it with girls. When Bambi was in college her folks found out she was turning gay and threw her out of the house.

I first saw Bambi in *The Mary Club* in her role as a sort of "Mad Maxine" after the bomb is dropped. Bambi was flawless, superb, her fans crowded the play's run, and gave her a standing ovation.

You can see Bambi Monday through Friday doing her striptease at The Galaxy Club, but I suggest you catch her cabaret shows at Club 181 for a real San Francisco treat.

Bambi is a very nice person, a marvelous entertainer, and one of the reasons this city is so much fun.

Bambi will perform at Lipps Dec. 4 and Club Nine Dec. 10 and 17.

Sissy

(Continued from page 26)

formance art, she wanted to collaborate with. In order to retain a certain amount of control Garner put this production together herself, raising money from family and friends. Her sometimes-employer Carole Shorenstein Hayes donated rehearsal space.

Starting with producer Steve Seferain and director Zoe Elton, the team "grew organically," Garner says, adding actors Sheila Balter and Roxanna Augersen, set designers Courtenay Marvin and Andrea Staley, composer/musician Donna Viscuso, and others. "It's what a lot of playwrights back away from. They let go of their pieces. I mean, eventually you have to..."

When she let go of *Salvation Street* after the happy experience at Rhino, it was staged by a company in Los Angeles where, Garner reports, it "didn't do well."

The three acts of *Sissy Goes West* form a trilogy of sorts. Act One, *Possessions*, was performed by itself at the Santa Cruz Women's Festival and People's Theatre Coalition, but the playwright intends to keep them together now: "I've always had in my mind to follow the whole journey."

Each act finds the heroine in a different place with a different woman — Babe, her mother; Corrine, a desert bag lady/entrepreneur; and Dee Dale, a starlet foiled by her resemblance to Kim Novak, if not a lack of talent. "Sissy takes on something of each of the women," Garner explains. "She has to look at each of them and decide what she's going to be."

The author is less concerned with a plot than with recurring images that impress the viewer: ants, apple pie, tattoos, and the "x" that marks the spot. "The more I look at the piece it's about images and a woman being haunted by them in a way... She's trying to deal with what she's haunted by and not sink into it."

"I'm really trying to play with powerful images," Garner continues. "Tattoos and ants are really charged images in our culture." She's pleased that the name Sissy has negative connota-



Playwright Terry Garner

(Photo: S. Warren)

tions for me, and says it does for women, too. "That name is something Sissy will have to overcome. Babe and Sissy are both very patronizing names."

The playwright's job, Garner feels, is to affect an audience, but not necessarily to have the same effect on each member of the audience.

In *Living' on Salvation Street* there are three women and one gay male character. *Sissy Goes West* has four women with only cameo appearances by two men and a lot of talk about Sissy's brain-damaged brother and smelly "old geezer" of a father. To the comment that there's not much room for men in her theatrical universe Garner replies pleasantly, "The next play I'm writing has two grown men in it. My universe is opening up."

She explains more seriously that she wanted to start cautiously in areas she understood and felt comfortable with, "a certain sensibility from a woman's point of view." Now that she's sure she knows what she's doing, "I want

to take that view into the world... My interest is the breadth of human experience, and I want to write about all kinds of characters."

The Tennessee native believes Southerners carry a certain amount of guilt around with them. "Out of that guilt you build humor into absurdity... take it to an extreme to get at the underlying truth."

"If you're into guilt, obsession, and absurdity, come see *Sissy Goes West*."

Sissy Goes West
Intersection for the Arts
Dec 4-20; 626-3311

Wilkes' Bash

(Continued from page 26)

lace! The defiant ones appeared in black lace tights or body stockings over black leather bikinis. Pandemonium Time. And the South of Market contingent — west-end subdivision — looked as though it was going to storm the runway from the audience when more hunks came out with black leather whips.

Who could have followed this razzle-dazzle but headliner Joel Grey, small of stature but large of stage presence? With everyone towering over him, he still dominated the scene, this time simply by modeling — his first non-singing, non-dancing gig. He was a one-man demolition crew in his classic black tails and not the usual over-the-calf length, but right down to the floor. And those chrome-tipped sneakers!

Then came a mind-bending array of simple little \$100 pick-me-ups to \$3,000 Valentine gowns. Formal baggies, animal prints, and outerwear corsets zoomed by at a dizzying pace. Here was Big Bang promotion; retailing backed up by entertainment; merchandising enlivened with show biz. Like Bloomingdales, Bashford is selling the steak as well as the sizzle, only he does it better.

Nightclub closed with that sound of the 1925 *Cabaret* band once more grinding out the "Willkommen" number followed by the distinctive Joel Grey voiceover: "Madames et Messieurs, Damen und Herren, Ladies and Gentlemen. Where are your troubles now? Auf Wiedersehen. A Bientot. Good Night!"

Singing in the Rain should be that good.

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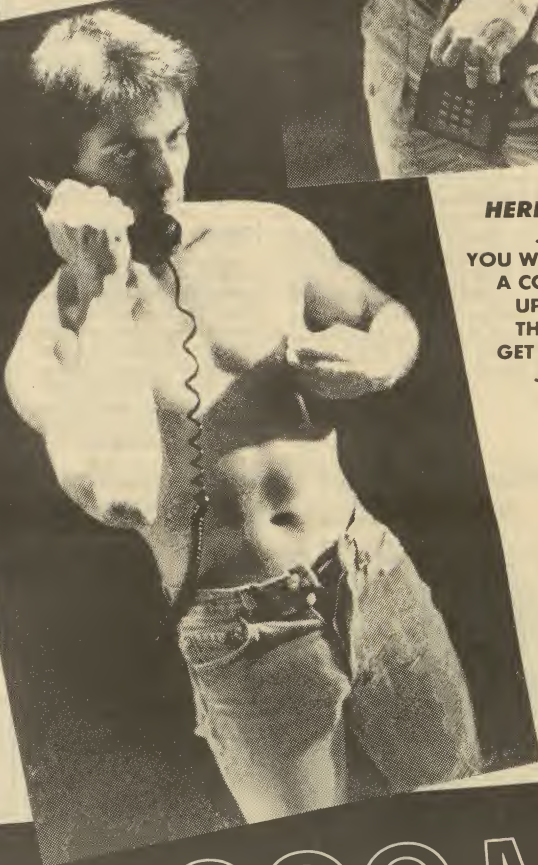
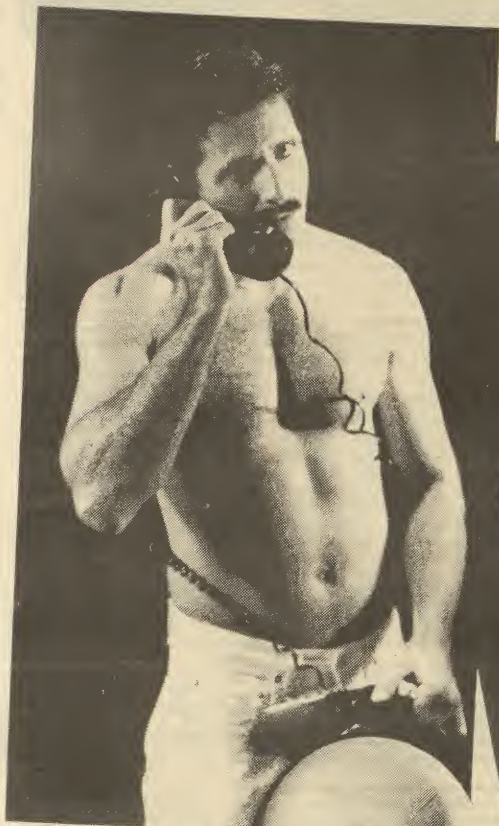


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GG II Awards Night

The Gay Games II Board of Directors will present the Gay Games II Awards Night Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., from 8 to 11 p.m. in recognition of Gay Games II volunteers. There will be a no-host bar and food will be provided. Music will be provided by DJ Beau Thompson. Guests are welcome to stay and dance until closing.

Forty Deuce

A staged reading of *Forty Deuce*, a hard-hitting burlesque excursion into the lives of four Times Square denizens, will be given Monday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. The play, written by Alan Bowne (author of *Sharon and Billy*), is directed by Joe Cappetta and includes Leland Moss, Martin Bedoian, Scott Brown, Sandy Bull, Philip Jimenez, Frank Papia, and Sean Stack in the cast. Call 864-4201 for reservations; admission is free.

Models Sought

Mark I. Chester, photographer of the Hot and Healthy Times condom brochure and various other projects, seeks two men, and a man and a woman, to model for a poster for National Condom Week. The poster will be distributed nationally.

Models should be over 21, but otherwise age and body type are of secondary interest. Ethnic minorities in particular are encouraged to apply. Call 621-6294 for more information.

Gay Latinos and AIDS

The Latino Community AIDS Education Project will offer a forum titled *The Gay Latino and AIDS: What to Do?* on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Capp Street Center, 362 Capp St. Admission is free and a light lunch will be served. Call 647-4141 for more information.

The forum will be conducted in Spanish and is aimed primarily at those persons who have had limited access to information on AIDS due to language barriers.

The forum will offer participants information and assistance on finding a personal response to the AIDS epidemic. Among the issues to be discussed are: How to deal with fear and anxiety around AIDS, how to deal with grief over the loss of a loved one, the nature of the AIDS virus and how it is transmitted, and safe and sensual sexual practices.

In the belief that education is the best weapon against AIDS, the Project will present a series of forums of which this is the first in an effort to keep the Latino community fully informed on this deadly epidemic.

Bilingual English/Spanish pamphlets and other educational materials are available to the public free of charge and can be obtained either by calling 647-4141 or stopping by the Project's offices at 2515 24th St., Suite 2.



Let the Holidays Be Gay

The Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus will present a concert Dec. 5 and 6 at 8 p.m. The programs will be given at the Unitarian Church of San Jose, 160 N. 3rd St. near St. John.

The program will begin with a focus on American song. Early American works by Stephen Foster and cowboy folklore songs will compete with more recent American songs. A more traditional approach to holiday music makes up the second part of the program. Well-known and not-so-well-known carols mixed with sacred readings will tell the holiday story. The audience can join the singing at the end of the program.

Tickets are \$3.50 on Friday and \$5 on Saturday. There will be a no-host reception following the concert on Saturday for the chorus and the audience. Proceeds from the Saturday concert will go to benefit ARIS. Tickets are available at the door or from chorus members.

Improv for Lesbians

A beginning and intermediate-level improvisational acting class geared towards women in general and lesbians in particular will meet every Tuesday and Thursday until Dec. 23 from 8 to 9 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. The class costs \$7. The instructor is Susan Kay, anchorwoman for the Gay Cable Network.

You can learn techniques of improvisation through exercises and role-playing games.

Pan and Places

Pan and Places, a rotating show of color photographs by Tom K. Lam, will be at the Village Deli Cafe, 495 Castro St., through December.

These images of a satyr, who just might be Pan, are the beginning of a series celebrating men as sensuous beings at peace with nature and each other.

Future pictures in this series will include men alone and loving each other with the satyr in attendance. The images will be sensuous and romantic, not pornographic. Men (and satyrs) willing to model should contact Tom Lam at P.O. Box 1306, Capitola, CA 95010.

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

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G/W/M, 56, 5'8" slim shaven in lingerie, etc. needs tit play/fucking (condom). Also into B/D, S/M. Want photos taken of me in poses and scenes. Smoke ok. 441-6523 E50

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3-4 ways wanted by Santa Rosa couple 707-578-4366 9am-10pm only - safe sex E49

HOT BTMS WANTED
Blk M sks sexy men for a safe good time. 928-6604 E49

Submissive Exp. Asian 27 seeks housekeeper arrangement p/t 648-7940 Mark E49

Bodybuilders uniform guys sick jocks a young clean-cut dogboy wants to lick your boots. Call 552-2778. No phone sex or j/o calls. E49

Free sensual massage for short muscular black men by bearded white gentleman. Eves best 585-1617 E49

GBM Seeks Asians
Prof. GBM, 35, 5'11", 169#, moustache, phys. fit, sks Asians. Will exch. my pic. for yours. Write: Boxholder 880608, SF, CA 94188 E49

I've Got It and It's Hot!
976-RODS 18+ \$2.00 E49

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LEAVE ADULT
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\$2.00 Plus Toll If Any

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THE BIGGEST & BEST
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(OVER 500 MOVIES IN STOCK)
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4 hot phone numbers
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the quality service
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effective, exclusive...expensive



HANDSOME AND HUNG
want to meet same for j/o in East
Bay (415) 895-1508 12-3pm or
leave message E50

Hey, Smoothie, like to sleep
spoon style? Call Hal anytime at
668-1366. E49

I'm 22, new in area. Need friends
18-40 • 349-4516 E49

Fat white buns available to clean
trim non-smoking man any race.
I'm 37, 6'2", 290 lbs., 50" waist,
strong, brown eyes, hair and trim
beard. Call Dave 753-1552 E49

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PWA SEEKS PWA/ PWARC PLAYMATE

Into Safe SM/BD; Fantasy/
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not exclusively Top. Lost my
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Moderate tobacco/alcohol/
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Nipple Work
Lean, smooth, defined GWM
looking for satisfying
mutual chest work with
trim muscular man
PO Box 14257, SF, CA 94114
E49

Want your ass whipped, boy?
976-RODS 18+ Only \$2.00 E50

People

Glory Hole Two 431-8748 E50

SPANKING VIDEOS!

Hot men (18-50) needed to per-
form. No sex! Call Mark Powers
553-2564 E52

Party with the hottest men in
town. "FOLSOM FOLLIES," Dec.
13, 1750 Clay St., 6 pm, \$10,
Hot-Line 668-3115 E50

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Photo by Reno



A professional full massage.
(\$35/in)

Ron 775-7057

Complete
Nude Sensual Massage
Mike Handsome Masculine
Beautiful Build, 6', 172, 36
\$50 in, \$65 out 863-6947 E50

★★★ PHILLIP ★★★

Good natured model-
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Reduce Stress Increase Vibrancy



JOE (415) 552-0645
Certified Massage Therapist
NON-SEXUAL • \$30-90 MIN • BY Appt. Only

Make your day — trained
ATHLETIC MASSEUR
Tastel Greg 841-4339 EBay E49

Great massage. Warm, sensual,
satisfying. Jon 776-8413 E49

Oriental Masseuse
Young Athletic 346-7249 E49

Relaxing, Tension Releasing
Esalen Massage. Jim 821-4788
Certified \$35/1 hr. E49

Santa's Big Helper

Blonde 6'1" 195 Lbs
Real Handsome, Hard Muscles,
Put An Erotic Swedish
Massage In Your Stocking.
Michigan Boy.
\$35 In/\$45 Out
DICK 441-1707 24 HRS

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Young Asian Masseuse
All Fantasies Considered
Call FUR-4993 Johnson E49

The best massage of your life by
a caring, handsome man. Certi-
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welcome. Bill 626-6210 E49

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TIME OUT!

Refreshingly Effective
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SENSUAL MASSAGE

• WARM • FRIENDLY • PROFESSIONAL • GUARANTEED •
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"I've been watching your ad for months... I'm
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"I've never been happier!" CLERGYMAN
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Secret Gospel Church

Ancient Phallic Rites of Gnostic
Christianity: An orgy of Brotherly
Love. Males 18 & older Welcome.
Info & schedule 621-1887.

Your daddy's waiting for you, boy
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I need parents.
Can anybody help me with this?
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Uncut uniform man looking for
good service. 6', 190 lbs., 42 —
JJJ, PO Box 94142-1263, SF
94142-1263 E49

Phil - enjoyed convers re: religion.
Like to continue but lost #. Call
Atheist E49

Small?

Sincere 38 y/o WM wants
to play with very small
endowed guys my age or
younger. Don't be shy!
Let's talk - 285-6349 E49

Ski Club • Jeff 826-3240 E2

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A personalized
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You choose from the Bay Area
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PRIZE EXCLUSIVE J/O Videotapes
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The men who use our service
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HORNY GUYS 24 hours a day.
Do it now for LESS THAN \$5.00
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18 look 16? I'm 46. 585-4335 E51

Glory Hole Hotline 552-7339 E1

Good head—No J/O 285-8390 E2

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Gdkg WM, 36, seeks hot men
18-40 to sit on my face. Also into
water sports, scat fantasies, ver-
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Call PhoneMale (408) 976-7400.
Three min. conversation. Set up
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Short-term support
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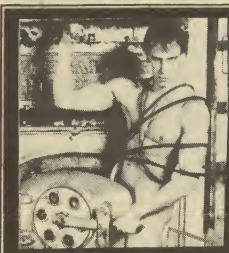
S. Bay massage \$35 354-2124
out call only - checks ok E51

BLOND HUNG & HANDSOME

Complete sensuous massage
Mark 24/hrs 558-8585 E49

BUSINESSMEN SPECIAL
Staying at Fairmont-Mark
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Complete-Relaxing-Massage
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San Jose Nude Massage by
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\$45/\$75 90 MIN.
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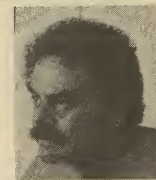
DREAM MASSAGE

Hung 9", bisexual, exceptional
handsome, muscular, speedo tan,
blonde/blu. Are you a yng. Asian
or Latin guy, sensitive & nice? I
have a special rate for you.
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Black masseur w/strong hands.
Licensed Swedish-Shiatsu
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BY 6FT. 160LB. HAIRY MAN 30IN
40OUT JAMES 621-2652

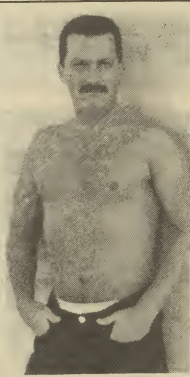


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CERTIFIED/EXPERIENCED
\$30/IN ROY 621-1302

Healing Massage/East Bay

Journey into inner peace. Experi-
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ment. Certified -
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EROTIC MASSAGE JOE 346-2921



NUDE HOT HANDSOME
\$35 550-8616 24 Hours E2

Sensual, Complete Massage
by short, hot bodybuilder. Relax
with Phillip, 864-5566 E49

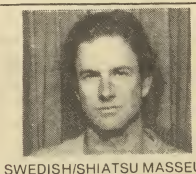
Certified Asian Masseuse
\$35/hr \$45/1½ 441-2149 E1

Nude athlete. Massage \$40.
Kevin 285-6542 Super time. E49

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The men who use our service
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HORNY GUYS 24 hours a day.
Do it now for LESS THAN \$5.00
an hour.

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SPECIALIZING IN THERAPY
FOR ATHLETES. CERTIFIED.
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CALL RICH 641-5045

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LEE 928-2013
24, 5'9", 140#, Brn/Gm.

X-GIFT WRAPPED MASSEUR
A complete erotic massage
by a goodkg masculine man
well defined, hung, cheery, can put
a smile on yours, everytime. \$35
441-1707 DICK 24 HRS
Ho! Ho! Ho!

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Exceptionally Handsome

Masseur, straight appearance. Professional, clean-cut young man, 30, athletic. I will massage you in the nude on my massage table for 1 hr. \$35/In, \$45/Out.
Nick 771-6731

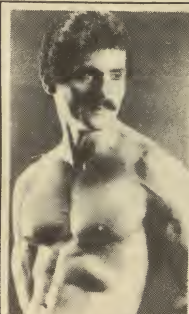
OUT TO RELAX?

Want someone professional and friendly I give a full body massage in the nude I am a Norwegian man, 28, Lt Bodybuilder and swimmer. Hand-ome and clean cut
Certified.
885-6309 \$30 in 24 hrs

Massage Therapy
 And Stress Management
 in A Beautiful Victorian
 Mansion

Holiday Special
 \$25 Hour Session
 Now Thru Dec. 31

David E. Held
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Full Body Massage
 Alan 431-6899



Models & Escorts

Tall Blond Erotic 863-3862 E51

Generous men call Kevin or Chad for escort — 24 hrs 626-6327
 Call now! E50



HUNG LIKE HORSE
 Unct Eric 408-336-5077 E6

HOT JOCK

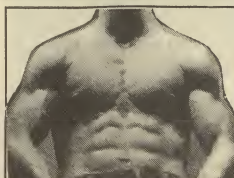
Full Equip GM RM
 Light to Heavy
 FF WS SM Leather
 Bondage!
 Steve 584-3983 E50

SEXY YOUNG STUD

HUNG BIG

LEE 928-2013

Models & Escorts



Hard Muscled Ex-Marine, 26
 Verbal, Hard Bullmeat \$100 Call
 my pager 764-5485

NUBIAN STALLION
REAL MAN'S STUD
 Top Quality 10
 Call Bpr # 991-8406 E49

Yng gdlk hung 10" Beeper # uncut
 well built 997-2252 E49

Straight Top
 Ex-Navy 30 yrs old
 185 lbs, 6'2", clean cut BB
 Digs FFA. Call 781-3708
 Craig, lv. message E52

Models & Escorts



MASTER JACK
 B & D - S & M
 Leatherman Really
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FF Teddy — Handsome man with
 tiny, talented hands will lovingly
 waft you to cosmic ecstasy. 626-
 4130 E49

VITO 2 DO U

Anytime Thru Holidays Hry
 Hunky Tan Italian A Great
 Gift 863-5539. \$50/\$75 Out
 E49

Wild Slave
 552-6786 E49

**Due to Christmas/New Years Holiday our
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 Classified Deadline will be Saturday - Noon, Dec. 20 & Dec. 27**

Not Too Shy Are You? Asian or Latin?

Hil Handsome, aggressive blond
 stud, defined physique, clean &
 healthy, massages in the nude.
 EXPERIENCED. \$35/IN
RON 776-0472

IN THE CASTRO

Certified Swedish/Esalen, 7-
 chakra nonsexual. 75 min. Only
 \$30. Jim 864-2430 E49

Ecstasy Body Exploration
 South of SF Airport (570-5216)
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Jeremy, 648-6774
 The most sensual massage
 in town! 24 hrs. In/out E49

The Tree is Lit, the Oil is Hot, the
 Massage is Deep. 90 min. \$30
 Larry 621-8560 E52

Caring mature blk masseur hung
 uncut sensuous 6ft 40 \$30 hr
 621-3319 - 178lb real E49

Amma Fullbody Accupressure
 \$25 Totally relaxing & energizing
 Feet my specialty - Certified
 Pete H. 285-6699 Non-Sexual
 INDULGE! \$5 OFF E49

Man-man massage! Turning pain
 into relief 641-9426 E49

Sensual massage by loving men.
 Jim and Pete 864-5483 E49

EAST BAY MASSAGE
 Sensual Swedish/Esalen
 Terry 845-9529 In/Out
 PWAs Welcome! E49

Sensual nurturing, great
 massage...Gary: 821-1005 E49

Experience yourself thru my
 touch. Mark. 285-6542 \$40
 E49

Relax with a deep, sensual mas-
 sage made in Heaven! John,
 861-0843. 24 hrs. E49

NORWEGIAN JOCK

DON, 30 yrs. old, goodlooking,
 warm personalized massage.
 I massage in the nude.
 Nob Hill. 1 hr. \$35/in, 24 hrs.
 752-1514
 Quality Massage!

Complete massage by handsome
 guy. Dwnwn S.F. 885-1558,
 Mark. 24 hrs. E1

Fantastic Massage by an Old Pro
 \$30, Roy 621-1302. E49

Massage • Body Cleansing
 Todd • 753-5131 E49

I PROMISE YOU ONE OF THE BEST MESSAGES OF YOUR LIFE



Sensual Swedish professional-quality
 athletes massage. Satisfaction guaranteed.
 SEPT. SPECIAL:
 A free VHS videotape with each massage.
 75 min. massage \$45 In/\$65 Out
 2 hr. massage \$65 In/\$80 Out



Nude Erotic Massage by

CRAIG 864-1487

Get-bucked-by-Bruce. Hung
 w/huge balls • Young • Hot • Stud.
 V/MC/AX \$60 931-8257 E49

HOT MUSCLE STUD
 "SEXY TOP" ERIC 641-7240
 E49

33 5'8" 145# Nice body -
 Great butt Ted 695-8718 E49



► New Talented Men
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 Men featured in Playgirl,
 Mandate, Drummer, Inches, &
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ATHLETIC JOCK

Clean-Shaven College Man
 Doug 469-7221

BLONDE BOTTOM
 33 5'8" 145# Nice body -
 Great butt Ted 695-8718 E49

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 A REAL MAN
 CALL THE MEN
 Healthy & Safe
 Orientals
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 Students
 Jocks
 Escorts
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 Please book early!
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863-1109**

Great French
 and a relaxing massage.
 Now available days & eves.
 Try Mel Chuck - 668-4547. E49

Pure Beef
 10 1/2", 29, blk, uncut, safe
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 Hot Blk Man 25, Best Buns
 Safe, Discreet - Call Les 863-5702 E49

Get Bucked by Buck 821-2318
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HUMONGOUS!

Handsome, Muscular Latin
 with Biggest Cock in S.F.
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★ ★ \$30-Hot Athlete ★ ★
 ★ Bill, 441-1054. Hung nice ★
 E49

UNCUT, HAIRY HUNK
 6'2", 175#, hung top, 24 hrs, safe
 \$40/\$50 Brian 864-8549 E49

Jess - Muscular, Adventurous
 5'8" 145# 824-4104 lv msg
 E49

★ Ed 6ft 160 31 bro/bro mstch
 9 1/2 Body Shop 563-7588 E49

HOT BEARDED JOCK

SAFE PLAYFUL ACTION
 MAN 2 MAN W/GDLKG BB
 5'8" 155 LBS
 GRN EYES BLOND HAIR
 SCOTT 80 In 100 Out 24 Hrs
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Hot Oriental

Bodybuilder from Hawaii
 5'6", 170, 47"C, 30"W, 17"A
Glen 751-7883

Good-Looking Latino

5'9", 19 y.o., 10" double thick,
 smooth complex., 145#, swimmer,
 muscle body build. I love to cuddle!

Vega 775-2216 24 hrs.

Accommodation+
 Why pay for both? Hot hlthy
 guys/prv room/b'fast!
 \$50 s/\$75 dbl 24 hr 626-8435 E50

Hung Straight Stud Digs Head
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• (415) 647-COCK •
 Big, big, big meat! "Don't be dis-
 appointed...call me first! You de-
 serve the very best" Web Sexton
 E49

No gimmicks! When you want a
 man who knows how to give you
 what you need, call Gary at
 441-3910 E50

19, white buns, big dick, big
 balls, big smile. All this & more
 — in a jockstrap 24 hrs \$60 Todd
 931-8257 E49

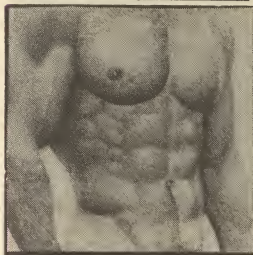
B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Models & Escorts

Head My Way! \$25/In
Ask for B.J. 864-5483

Call Kevin 864-4010
Young, Blonde, Exceptional
Handsome, Hung. Vers. 24 hr.
E49

► **Elite** ◀
18 year old • toned build
Bl/Lt. brn, 150 lbs, 30" W, 5'11"
Very Attractive!
Dale 928-4896
Leave Message



BLAZE
285-7546

Models & Escorts

Hng strt stud shws hrd \$50
863-2736 E49

24 HRS. AMX/V/MC
HOT HANDSOME TEXAN
6'2", 185#, 40"C, 30"W.
Hung 8x5%,
CALL RANDY
931-7880

Your submissive fantasies fulfilled
by our masters of disguise
863-1128 \$100 E49

Steven 35 6'2" 170 hard hairy
well-defined. Br hair beard/moust
431-5974 E49

Give Yourself the Gift of Pleasure
Avg Day Becomes Above Avg
w/My Help - 24 Hrs.
5'9" bl/bl - Ted - 861-7179
E49

READY WRESTLE
Call Chrome
Pager # 991-8406 E49

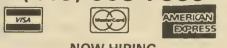
LONG XXX THICK
Perfect Top, very handsome
swimmer's build. A gentleman,
27 yrs., Brn. Hair, Blue Eyes.
American Express/VISA/MC
24 hours In/Out Rod 864-4010
E49

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The Body Shop
Escorts & Companions
from \$100
bodybuilders • Latins
Blacks • College Jocks

- No Obligations
- HTLV III Neg. Models
- Phone Fantasies
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NOW HIRING

Expert Prolonged Bondage!
No choice - Jack - 415/680-8959
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TOP MAN

BIG BALLS & HUNG
24 HRS DAVID 668-2266
E49

Cocky yng constr wrkr 25 hrd
mscls horse hng rugged hndsm
\$80 pncn yr nmbr hng up
571-3184 E49

Models & Escorts



239-8419

23 yo competitive athlete hung
8" v. muscular hndsm jock \$100
957-7707 hit yr. tel no hang-up
E49

ROGER 864-5566

Exotic bondage and restraint
fantasies fulfilled by a short,
handsome bodybuilder. Domi-
nant but safe, discreet, expert.

**Straight Chunky
Irishman**

Thick cut 8 plus inches, needs
French action. 30, 5'10", 200lbs.,
firm. NO GREEK.
DAN 861-7931

Models & Escorts

**San Francisco's
Hottest Top**

6ft., 185lbs., no-nonsense leather
man. 34 y.o., hot rugged good-
looking. Blond Master Expert into
W/S, S/M, F/F, verbal abuse,
bondage, T/T. Well equipped game
room. Sling, rack, mirror & toys.
Novices Welcome. Safe
controlled space

MAX 673-4221

★★★★★★
Hot Leather Top

Hung Young Top with
Playroom, Sling, Etc.

Safe and Sane

Novices Welcome

If you like a young hot top

"Spike" 922-6322

★★★★★★

HUNG ITALIAN STUD

Tall, Handsome and Hairy
Tony 337-0661

Due to Christmas/New Years Holiday our
OFFICE WILL CLOSE NOON - Dec. 24 & Dec. 31
Classified Deadline will be Saturday - Noon, Dec. 20 & Dec. 27

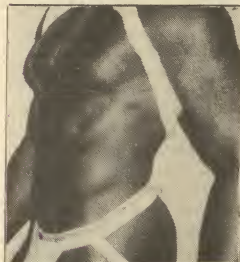
LIFEGUARD

Tall, Handsome, and Hung
BRIAN
24 Hrs. 922-0751 Out only
E49

★★ **YNG. STUD** ★★
24, 6', 160#
9" x 6 1/2"
Bro, Blu, Must.
HAIRY CHEST
Smooth Defined Body
24 Hrs. Out Only
★★ **"RICK"** ★★
★★ (415) 346-3068 ★★

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Thick and Big
GUS (415) 469-7221



DREAMMAKER

Exceptionally Handsome Black B.B.
200 Lbs, 47C, 31W, 18A. Perfectly
Smooth Rock Hard Fantasy Man.
Treat Yourself To An Affair With
Sonny. 621-0592 \$100 In/\$120 Out.

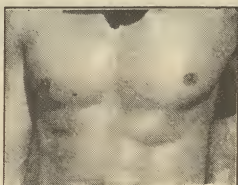
**HOT NY
STUD**

\$50/24 Hrs.
David 550-8616

FOR YOUR PLEASURE

Ruggedly Handsome
Meaty 8", 42C, 30W, 6',
170 Muscular Lbs.

Jeff 626-2392



**SCOTT
COLLEGE-JOCK 100.00**
(415) 825-2433

St. looking macho man. Big
muscles 50"C 19"a 5'8" 205#
hung. V/MC/AX Don 647-8925
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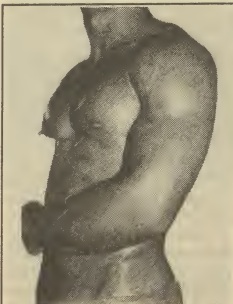
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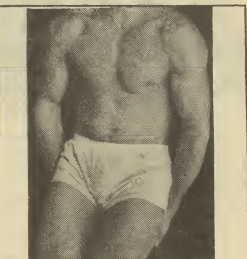
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

The Big Game

Both Deputy and Trojan Coaches Say It Will Be Close

by Paul Trefzger

I asked Rick Drocco, coach of the Deputy Sheriffs team, to talk about why this year's game against the San Francisco Trojans would be different from last.

"Last year was an extremely hard-fought battle until our line-men finally wore them (the Trojans) down. This year our line-men aren't as big and it should make for a closer game. I'm looking forward to it because I hear the Trojans have been practicing for two months and have won a couple of games against a South City team and we're 0 for 0. Well, we'll soon be 1 and 0.

"I'm looking forward to playing athletes the caliber of Glenn Burke and Clay Maxwell," he said, and added that, "Despite our lack of practice, hopefully our athletic ability will prevail. We have good timing, which is important. We'll win. We're ready to meet the challenge."

Trojan coaches Clay Maxwell, Dave Davenport, and Bernard Turner talked about their team.

"We've designed more flexibility into our offense. We have better athletes in the skilled positions and we've worked hard on our execution. Playing against the Terminators has helped us because they're an experienced team with a lot of league play. They're very similar to the Deputies team in personnel."

"I predict the toughest game of the series so far and the outcome will depend upon our defense, whose play in the last game against the Terminators was outstanding," said Davenport. ●



Deputy Coach Rick Drocco (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



Trojan coaches (l. to r.) Clay Maxwell, Bernard Turner, and David Davenport (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

SOFTBALL

Gay Softball League Party Time and Meetings

by Tom Vindeed

Trax on Haight Street will host the next meeting of the Gay Softball League this Saturday at 12 noon. A small turnout is expected so I think I'll be able to push through my motion that the commissioner should play. How about player's fees? Sounds good to me.

Later that day the Phone Booth at 25th Street and South Van Ness will host a Santa's Grab Bag. For \$10 you get to pick a number and your prize will be valued at \$10 or more. The fun starts at 7:30 p.m. with lovely Lin-

da providing her great snack treats.

Dec. 11 there will be a fundraising meeting at the German Oaks restaurant on Market Street beginning at 7 p.m. sharp.

Last Monday the Galleon on 14th Street kicked off the holiday season by hosting a World Series fundraiser for the GSL. Special thanks to Jerry Coletti, Momi Starr, Pauline, Janet Cory, and Dixon for a fun evening.

Keep reading for future World Series updates. ●

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TENNIS

Celebration of Gay Tennis '86

by Les Balmain

The members of the Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco held their 5th Annual Awards Banquet Sunday, Nov. 16, at Green's Restaurant, located in Fort Mason. The federation celebrated one of the best years of tennis in its history. The successful 1986 year of events include: recruiting many new members, including women; sold-out tennis tournaments; gaining many community sponsorships; increasing membership attendance at meetings; and publishing a very professional monthly newsletter. This was all made possible by the hard work and dedication of the G.T.F. Executive Board led by a very capable president, Don Trisdale.

Following the gourmet dinner, the members were entertained by a slide picture-audio show created and produced by Charles Woods. (Charles was seen all year long with his camera hanging around his neck.) Charles went to Green's the previous morning at 3 a.m. to set up 12 slide projectors

hidden in a recessed ceiling and put up a 30-foot screen along with a booming sound system. The 15-minute show was not only slick and professional, it was incredibly moving at times. It surveyed the whole year, on the courts and off. One of the big highlights was a section in the middle on Gay Games II that really captured the feeling of that week.

Ken Wells, the toastmaster (or toastmistress?), dressed in drag somewhat as a frumpy housefrau, expedited the awards presentation by keeping the speeches short and sweet. The following awards were presented:

Team Tennis: First place: Roto Rooter, sponsor: Brent Weaver, members: Keith Mason, Tom Adlefinger, Shelly Stone, Jay Moore, Brent Weaver, and Ken Najour; Second place: Pilsner Inn, sponsor: Pat Conlon; Third place: Lupanne's, sponsor: Grant Trent; and Fourth place: Rawhide II, sponsor: Ray Chalker.

Team Tennis MVPs: Roto Rooter, Ken Najour; Pilsner Inn, Ed Randall; Lupanne's, Freddie Green and David Lewis; Rawhide II, Michael Strickland; Community Rentals, J. W. White; and the White Swallow, Karl Baum.

Jim Holloran Tournament, the 7th annual membership tournament: A Division, David Lewis; B Division, Patrick Keane; and C Division, Pete DeVora.

Doubles Tournament: A Division, Keith Hansen and Fernando Reyes; B Division, Shelly Stone and Jay Moore.

Gran Prix Tournament: A Division, Chris Walkey; B Division, Shelly Stone; and C Division, Michael Strickland.

Business Community Awards: Taste, Timoth Maxson; and the Tennis Shack, Craig and Susan Sullivan.

Outstanding Service Award: Jeff Greenfield and Andre Lalias.

Most Improved Player Award: Michael Strickland.

President's Award: Charles Woods. (Continued on next page)

BOWLING

Rock'n-Roll'n-Bowl'n

by Jerry R. De Young

Beginning at 9 p.m. on 11/26, and continuing through the next four hours, the house lights at Park Bowl were dimmed. The color TV screen over each lane simultaneously projected the same dynamic musical video presentation that was being shown on the giant screen hanging over the two center lanes. When the bowlers were not propelling balls down the dark, shadowy alleys toward the islands of bright light at the far end, or trading quick quips with those nearest them, their seemingly inexhaustible energy reserves were expended by gyrating to the rhythms surging from the jumbo speakers. Laughter and good-natured yelps of joy filled the few audio intervals left vacant by the heady musical fare. Sure, this was bowling, but bowling with a great big plus — entertainment!

To further agitate an already turbulent sea of fun, at 10 p.m., in random spots, a colored pin was inserted into each 10-pin rack. If the bowler achieved a predetermined goal involving the

colored pin, he or she won a silver dollar. Also, at surprise intervals during the evening, tickets were drawn to determine winners of such coveted prizes as bowling balls, bowling bags, or tickets-for-duos to as yet unreleased movies.

John Games, master of the microphone, benefited greatly from the able assistance and wise counsel of Bill Kane, Ron Raimondi, and Terry Van Sciver, in the organization and presentation of this frolicsome night on the lanes which raised more than \$1,000 for Project Open Hand.

The theme of this Rock & Bowl evening was "That's What Friends Are For." How appropriate that these five words so accurately describe the function of Open Hand. Since late 1985, this organization has been preparing and delivering two wholesome meals seven-days-a-week to PWAs and PWARC who are financially or physically unable to provide for themselves. Today, 25 volunteers work several hours, one day a week, to help 65 people main-

tain or regain their health.

Open Hand is supported by donations from individuals and modest grants from a variety of organizations. If anyone would like more information about Project Open Hand, or is interested in volunteering time, or wishes to support the meal service, the address is 1668 Bush St., S.F. 94109 (Phone: 771-9808).

Those who took part in the "That's What Friends Are For" party at Park Bowl not only shared in a great evening of merriment, their participation also granted them membership to an ever-widening circle of proud athletes who choose to demonstrate their compassion through their passion.



POOL

4½×9's- 9, Too- 2

by Lauren Ward

The DeLuxe Too, which won its division this season and finished second overall, was crushed in playoff action by the Park Bowl 4½×9's by a score of 9-2.

The match was one of two played Tuesday, 11/25, as the San Francisco Pool Association's Fall '86 season playoffs began the semi-final round, with the League's top four teams battling for the coveted city championship.

Players in the DeLuxe vs. Park Bowl confrontation included the Too's Mike Macri, winner of this season's All-Star tournament, and the 4½×9's Rick Mariani, 1986 9-ball champion. The two teams lock horns again Tuesday, 12/2, at Park Bowl, where DeLuxe must win to force a third match.

The defending city champion, DeLuxe Ducks, narrowly defeated the high-spirited Bear T.H.U.G.G.S. in the other match played last week. Ducks Captain, Lisa Duncan, banked in the last 8-ball to defeat hot-shooting Joe Ackenbrandt for the 9-6 final score. The Ducks, undefeated

thus far this season, were further buoyed by the subsequent return of their most experienced player, E.Z., who's back from his world travels and is "itchin' for some competition." His first opportunity arrives Dec. 2, when the Bear comes to DeLuxe.

The two teams which emerge triumphant in this week's semifinals will square off Tuesday, 12/9, in pursuit of the opportunity to challenge XIV in Reno Jan. 9-11.

Dial JOE-POOL for league or open tournament information.

Tennis

(Continued from previous page)

The evening was concluded with the passing of the guard from the old to the new Executive Board. The newly elected officers for 1987 are: Co-Presidents: Tom Neville and Chris Walkey, Vice President: Cesar Casado, Secretary: Michael DeGarmo, Treasurer: Jeff Greenfield, and Sgt.-at-Arms: Michael Strickland.

PARK BOWL

Team Standings

S.F. WOMEN'S BUSINESS LEAGUE

(Week 10 of 26 - as of 11/23/86)

1. Mary's Futons	24	12
2. Awards By Chris	24	12
3. Amelia's	23	12
4. Park Bowl	23	13
5. Artemis Cafe	21½	14½
6. Mona Tong Realty	21	15
7. Express Comp.	21	15
8. Francois Coffee	20	16
9. Jeffes & Associates	19	17
10. Olive Oil's	19	17
11. Spare Us	18	18
12. Cassidy Cabinets	16½	19½
13. SF Reporting	16	20
14. Women's Trng Center	15½	20½
15. Sidney's Pinheads	15½	20½
16. Code Blue	15	21
17. About Paper +	15	21
18. Cafe Commons	11	25
19. Maud's Squad	10	26
20. Better Natural	10	26

TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE

(Week 8 of 21 - as of 11/24/86)

1. Mr. Pilsner	23	9
2. Play With It, Ltd.	21	11
3. Pilsner Powder Puffs	20	12
4. Rainbow Bears	19	13
5. Watering Holes	18½	13½
6. Park Bowl	18	14
7. Inside Out	18	14
8. Pinbusters	18	14
9. Pilsner Pnlls Sisters	18	14
10. Mus/Nic Construction	17½	14½
11. CC Riders	17	15
12. Capricorn Coffee	15	17
13. Pendulum	14	18
14. Station Go Aheads	13	19
15. 757 Medical	13	19
16. Welcome Home	19	19
17. The Hula's Associates	11	21
18. Pin Tweakers	11	21
19. The Club	11	21
20. Team #10	11	21

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

(Week 8 of 22 - as of 11/20/86)

1. Park Bowl	24	8
2. Trocadero	22	10
3. Belden 22	20	12
4. Sticky Bun Bears	20	12
5. S.F. Eagle	19	13
6. Wild Balls	19	13
7. Paradise Lounge	19	13
8. The 69 Club	18½	13½
9. Play With It, Ltd.	18	14
10. Dive Inn	19	14
11. Cock-A-Doodle-Do	17	15
12. Wooden Horse	17	15
13. Trax Trash	16	16
14. PB Wrong #s	15	17
15. Just Trax	14	18
16. Inside Out	12	20
17. Spare Us	12	20
18. Superstar Video	11½	20½
19. Capricorn Coffee	11	21
20. Crescent City Cafe	11	21
21. The Clean-up Artists	9	23
22. Station Studs	9	23

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

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Video

(Continued from page 36)

able. This interrupts the flow of this fascinating story, but the film is still well worth your time. It offers a rare opportunity to peek in on what is often a closed society, the world of Orthodox Judaism. It is most interesting to watch the pious Gittl (Carol Kane) gradually transform from an obedient wife into her own woman, without sacrificing any of her religious ideals.

Yentl (1983)
Directed by Barbra Streisand

Yentl was a dream project of Streisand's for nearly 20 years. She had wanted to make this film back in the '60s as a follow-up to her Oscar-winning *Funny Girl*, but had to put the project on hold until she was able to financially back it herself. Barbra Streisand, the most bankable woman in Hollywood, was unable to find backing for her directorial debut. Hollywood still has much to learn, as *Yentl* was a top moneymaker. Of course the industry responded by boycotting the film at Oscar time!

Yentl is Barbra's return to her roots. A nice Jewish girl from Brooklyn, Barbra was raised in a religious household. Her father, a biblical scholar, died when she was only 15 months old. As time passed, she put her religious background on hold while she concentrated on her career.

Barbra had always wanted to get closer to the father she never knew, and this story of a young woman who finds her identity by studying the forbidden (to women) holy books seemed like an ideal way to accomplish this.

Yentl is perhaps the most impressive feature debut I have ever seen. Barbra Streisand is indeed



Katherine Hepburn, circa 1935

a woman of many talents.

Testament (1983)
Directed by Lynn Littman

This short film was made for the PBS series American Playhouse, but was so good it was given a theatrical release instead.

The subject is the aftermath of a nuclear holocaust, a subject that another film, *The Day After*, touched upon that same year. *Testament* is obviously the better of the two.

Slow, quiet, and unbelievably haunting, *Testament* is a film you may never forget. Without resorting to whiz-bang special effects, it shows what may happen to us all if we don't learn to curtail nuclear power.

All films in this column can be rented from Captain Video on Market or Superstar Video on 18th Street off Noe, among other outlets.

Warren

(Continued from page 31)

remake *Heartbreak Ridge* themselves. They can get Jane Austen to write the dialogue and Wally Cox to play the lead.

SHORT SUBJECTIVES

A new filmmakers' mini-cooperative, In-Sync Film Projects, has assembled four short films into a package for theatrical bookings. Wynn Hauser's *Sanctuary: A Question of Conscience* and Tina Defelicio's *Antonio's Living with AIDS* were reviewed and recommended at last month's Film Arts Festival. They are joined on the bill by the unreviewed *Silver into Gold*, an account of two 55-year-old women athletes by Lynn Mueller, and *The Flapper Story*, Lauren Lazin's study of the most liberated women of the 1920s. (New Varsity, Palo Alto, 12/4; Roxie, 12/5)

SAFE AT HOME

Many of us need or long for the security of a relationship, or at least what seems like security for a time. *Dancing in the Dark* is an astonishing, painful Canadian film about an extreme case. Edna (Martha Henry) is what they call a "total woman," a '50s sitcom

housewife who wouldn't recognize liberation if she were chained to it.

She's so grateful to Harry (Neil Munro) for giving her a home to feel secure in that for 20 years she spends all day every day keeping it perfect for him. The film alternates between this golden-hued haven and the cold blue institution where a near-catatonic Edna is recalling the past in her journal.

You may go mad before Edna does, as she cooks and cleans and talks and talks. I never realized I could hate watching housework as much as doing it.

Still, writer-director Leon Marr is building his mystery, scattering clues as he goes. Edna reveals the extent to which she idolizes her situation when she posits, "If Christ came back and said, 'I didn't really mean all those things,' ... wouldn't someone kill Christ?"

The story could easily have been done as a Carol Burnett sketch. It's so borderline-absurd that playing for laughs would have been the easy way. But Martha Henry's chilling performance, one of the year's best, makes you take it all seriously.

Dancing in the Dark isn't fun to watch, but at least you won't confuse it with anything else you've ever seen. (Ghirardelli)

Karr

(Continued from page 29)

native, nor arousing, the collection's chief attribute is a deja-vu repetitiveness. By now, we have an ingrained response to this genre. If you're into it, you'll get hard from the idea of the book and can skip this trip's attenuated contents. If you're not into it, this collection won't get you there.

A second anthology, *Hard, Volume 2* (paper, \$10), is more successful. Authors are bylined here, which means more time and creativity has gone into their creation. There's a novel of sexual initiation, boot-camp encounters, uncle seductions, foreign affairs, Indian romance in the old West, and adolescent glands abustin'. It's a nice buffet; go back for seconds.

★ ★ ★

A different note altogether is struck by *Look Homeward Erotica* (Ten Speed Press, \$8.95). This sequel to *Ladies' Own Erotica* brings us more day-

dreams from The Kensington Ladies' Erotica Society, a group of suburban California housewives who are proving to the Meese Commission that sex is not degrading and that a little smut in our lives can be nice.

This is literary erotica, on a calmer note than gay men are accustomed to. The publisher was surprised to find a strong lesbian response to the first volume. It seems lesbians enjoy women's fantasies of many varieties, and so this volume, which flirts with lesbian content, is being formally announced to gay bookstores.

Explicit lesbian content is not strong. One story, Bernadette Vaughan's "Ariane, Ariane," explores the relationship between an adolescent and a mature woman, and lesbian situations occur briefly in several other selections.

The authors, though enthusiastic, are non-professionals, and their work can be flowery, prim, and est-y. It can also be fresh, inventive, gracious, and surprisingly sexy. You may want to check it out.

Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

out all stops for Margherita's mad scene, playing her big moment for its full dramatic value instead of aiming for any pearl-shaped tones during the aria, "L'altra notte."

Boito's *Mefistofele*, although much less popular than Gounod's *Faust*, still packs a dramatic wallop when given a thoughtful production and sung well. Needless to say, each of these operas benefited handsomely from the use of Supertitles. Rumors abound that Sam Ramey will star in a new production of *Mefistofele* for the San Francisco Opera in the fall of either '87 or '88, and those who have yet to see him perform this role are in for quite a treat.

BEYOND GOD'S HELP

Brief mention should be made of the English National Opera's production of Busoni's *Doctor Faust*, which I had the dubious honor of attending in May. A co-production with the Berlin Opera, this baffling interpretation

by David Pountney made little, if any sense. Stefanos Lazaridis' dangerously shaky and decidedly clumsy sets included long banks of steel file cabinets which were precariously perched above the stage and then slanted down toward the footlights at an angle of nearly 45 degrees. Below this unit piece, people disappeared into a steeply raked, slatted floor which rested above a series of trapdoors.

Although there were Nazis, an old car, and three mysterious students from Krakow in this production, I will readily confess that this was one instance where I didn't have the slightest fucking idea of what was happening onstage. Thomas Allen sang the title role with Graham Clark as Mephistofeles and Eileen Hannon doubling as Helen of Troy and the Duchess of Parma.

The only thing of which I can be sure is that numerous chairs in London's ancient Coliseum Theatre fell apart as soon as their occupants sat down in them that night. So, for that matter, did the guiding concept behind this unfortunate and extremely bizarre production.



A Cruise to Remember

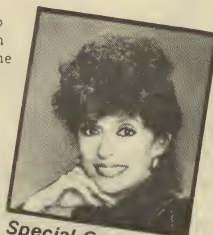
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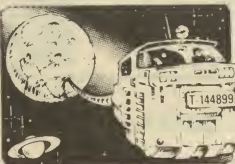
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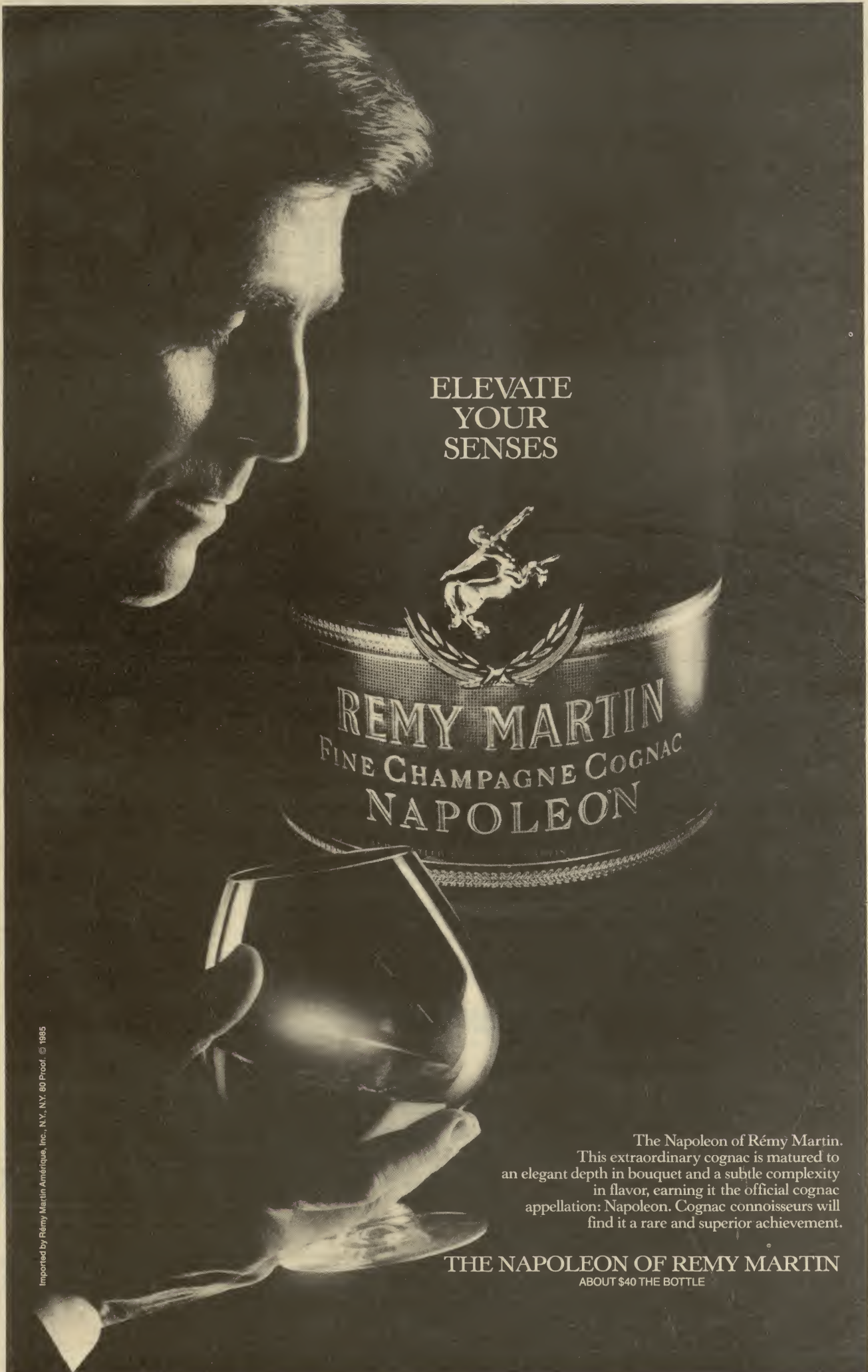


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